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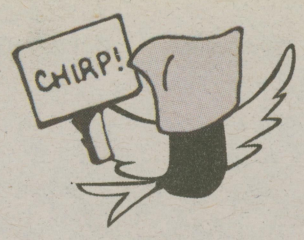

Imprisoned in a basement for 60 years

Nov. 1, 2007 | The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper | Vol. 60, No. 13 | www.martlet.ca

Military welcome

JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Hundreds of students voted down the proposed ban on military recruitment in the SUB at the student union's Oct. 25 annual general meeting.

David Karp

Students overwhelmingly rejected a motion to ban the military from recruiting in the Student Union Building at the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) annual general meeting on Oct. 25.

According to UVSS records, 525 students packed the SUB's Michèle Pujol Room to attend the meeting. The meeting started half an hour late as students waited in line to sign in and receive voting cards.

Roughly 25 people voted in favour of the ban. Had the motion passed, the Canadian Forces wouldn't have been able to recruit at the annual UVic Career Fair in January because it is held in the SUB.

George Robinson, former UVSS chairperson candidate, spoke against the ban. "For students that wish to protest the war, this is the wrong way to do it," said Robinson. "By banning any organization that we may disagree with, we are acting against the very purpose of this university."

Student Serina Zapf agreed. "I'm a human rights activist. I totally understand the issues in Afghanistan. I know about the torture. I hear about these things. I campaign on them," she said. "That being said, as a human rights activist I believe in a dialogue of voices ... I'm excited that our UVSS has a voice and is speaking on issues. But at the same time, I don't think they need to protest for me."

But proponents of the motion to ban the military said the issue wasn't about freedom of speech.

"Exercising my democratic right is about taking action to actually stop things from happening," said student Jennifer King. "So I see this ban as a concrete thing I can do to prevent the spread of these ideas, to prevent the spread of our military actions, and to prevent people from really being drawn into something they may not know a lot about."

See Campus buzzing, p. 2

Society to adopt new electoral policy

Students vote to incoportate recommendations from report on UVSS elections

Steve Carey

The UVic Students' Society (UVSS) has accepted new electoral policy and bylaw recommendations, and has less than 30 days to find someone to implement them.

As a result of a vote during the society's Oct. 25 annual general meeting, the UVSS must hire an independent, recognized, non-partisan expert in electoral policy or non-profit governance to incorporate the recommendations into its electoral policy prior to the 2008 UVSS elections. Whoever the society hires must complete the contract within eight weeks.

"We need to get these passed. We need to fix our electoral system," said George Robinson, who made an amendment to include the 30 day hiring limit and eight week implementation period at the meeting. "Holding free and fair elections are essential to the health of the students' society."

Robinson, a former UVSS chairperson candidate, also included the following passage in the amendment: "Based on past experience, the membership of the UVSS has no guarantee that its wishes as expressed at a General Meeting will be honoured by the executive according to the constitution of the UVSS."

The amendment was in response to the delayed investigation into the 2006 elections, which was tasked to the board during the Oct. 19, 2006 annual general meeting. The investigation did not begin until student outcry forced the board to find a suitable person to conduct the investigation, completed in April 2007.

Sandra McCallum, a retired UVic law professor, is the author of the 19-page report and conducted her research and interviews over six weeks.

The focus of the electoral reforms is based on the conduct of the 2005-06 UVSS board during the 2006 elections, where the board broke its own bylaws and electoral policy by re-hearing a settled appeal and then disqualifying chairperson candidate and election winner Mike Waters.

Waters was originally disqualified for third-party endorsement, breaking electoral policy. His appeal was heard by the UVSS Electoral Committee (the first level of appeal) and the UVSS board (the last level of appeal). Both appeals were successful.

The report said the board decided to re-hear Waters' appeal after Penny Beames, the incumbent chair who was running for re-election, threatened litigation against the board and individual board members. According to McCallum, the proposed lawsuit alleged that Beames had been treated unfairly in the appeals process.

After an in-camera session, the board revoked Waters' successful appeal, and in a six-member meeting that violated the minimum number of board members for making a decision, appointed Beames as chairperson.

"One can only assume that as a result of the in-camera session the Board agreed to rehear the Beames appeal against Waters reinstatement by the [Electoral Committee] in return for her not pursuing her lawsuit against the UVSS," read McCallum's report.

McCallum's recommendations to remove the board as the last level of appeal and create an Electoral Committee independent of board members. Instead of a committee made up of three UVSS directors, McCallum suggested the board use a group of three faculty, one law faculty member, or three students not connected to a UVSS candidate or slate.

McCallum also recommended that the minimum number of members present for the board to make decisions be set at 11 members. The report called for the creation of an arbitration panel, made up of a member of each slate and a chair chosen by the committee members. The panel would provide a timely and independent process to review and determine alleged problems in the electoral process.

McCallum also recommended a bylaw to ensure ballots are kept in trust by Campus Security. That's the current practice, although it's not official.

McCallum's report is available on the UVSS website or through the UVSS resource co-ordinator (resource@uvss.uvic.ca).

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AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Students Against War held an event before the annual general meeting featuring actors dressed as Afghan detainees, rappers and musicians.

Continued from p. 1

Campus buzzing before meeting

Student Laticia Chapman moved to table the motion, adding that it should be put to a referendum because there is more to the issue than the military.

"I think the question at hand is the ethical stanards the university wants to uphold when it invites various organizations and corporations to its Career Fair," said Chapman. "We have to ask ourselves what we want to uphold as a university and it involves much larger issues than just the military."

Chapman's motion to table was overwhelmingly defeated.

Students who expected a lively debate on the issue were out of luck. Rob Boyes successfully called the question after eight students debated the issue.

Campus was buzzing in the leadup to the vote. Students Against War organized a pre-meeting rally outside the SUB, featuring numerous musicians and people dressed up as prisoners. Jon Fox, who created the Facebook group opposing the ban, was playing guitar and singing songs with supporters outside the Clearihue building.

Fox said he was pleasantly surprised by the results of the vote. "That was even more of an overwhelming majority in that vote than I had expected," Fox said outside the meeting. "I almost wanted them to count it just so we could have the satisfaction of it being like 400-80."

Despite the results, this may not be the end of the issue. Outside the meeting, UVic Students of War co-chairperson Tim Fournier called the AGM "a great exercise in democracy" but said his organization will continue its protest of the military.

"Obviously, this isn't going to be the end of it ... our mandate is to resist militarism," Fournier said. "This is one tactic we tried, and we're not limited to just making motions at UVSS meetings." Fournier refused to elaborate what tactics his organization would use.

UVSS chairperson Tracy Ho said her organization could ask the military to address certain points when they recruit.

"That's something we can facilitate and go into a dialogue with the military and say, 'These are the concerns that students have' and say, 'Can you address them when students come?'" explained Ho. "It would be a request of them. It wouldn't be a requirement."

Fox said he hopes this is the end of the issue.

"I just hope they respect it and take it as a fact that the majority of people here don't want this type of ban," he said. "I hope they respect that position and don't try to do anything underhanded."

STILL BANNED

Although the military is now welcome in the SUB, there are other groups and individuals that aren't. Most decisions to ban people or groups are made by management in the SUB, said UVSS general manager Marne Jensen, but those decisions could be appealed to the UVSS board of directors.

College Pro Painters

College Pro, which has recruited students for its summer painting business in the past, has not been allowed to book tables in the SUB since the summer, said Jensen.

"They repeatedly left materials all over the SUB. They put their leaflets out all over tables and we don't allow that," she said. "They've been warned a couple of times to follow the rules expected of them, and they continued to disregard those rules."

Credit card companies

No credit card companies, except MBNA Canada Bank, are allowed to have tables in the SUB. That's because the student union has an exclusivity agreement with MBNA, which administers the UVic MasterCard. The deal will generate $23,000 in revenue for the UVSS this year.

"We did have the Royal Bank here. They were helping students open accounts," said Jensen. "And once MBNA complained, we did ask [Royal Bank] to stop filling out forms for their credit card."

Peter Verin

Resident UVic philosopher Peter Verin has been banned from the SUB since the summer because of management concerns.

"We did have restrictions on Peter Verin because of concerns of janitorial staff because of his behaviour, so we asked him not to come to the SUB when they were on shift," said Jensen.

She added there are people banned from Felicita's because of bad behaviour. "There have been inviduals [banned] over the years," said Jensen. "There was an individual that was using the Women's Centre that was saying some things that were clearly inappropriate [who was also banned]."

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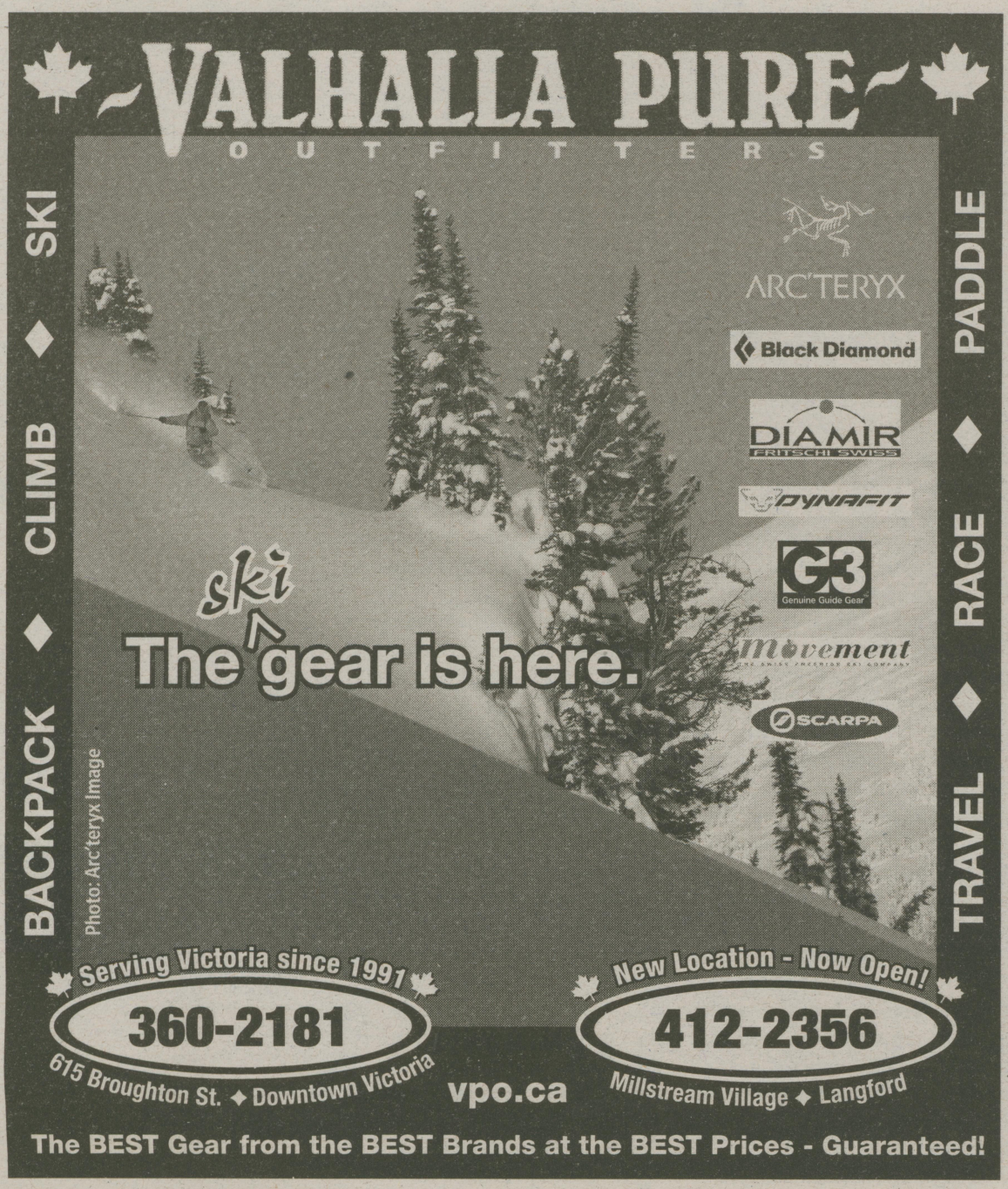

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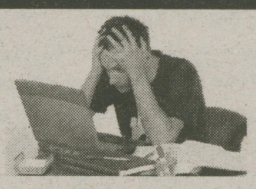

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UVic calls for investigation into Jordan River sale

Environmental Law Centre accuses government of not doing its job

Sean Peterson

UVic's Environmental Law Centre (ELC) has requested that B.C.'s auditor general investigate Forests and Range Minister Rich Coleman for allowing the release of over 28,000 hectares of publicly-regulated land into the hands of a private company.

"The amount of land we're talking about is equivalent to a line of [NFL] football fields stretched from Victoria to Nova Scotia," said Ray Zimmerman, spokesperson for the Sea-to-Sea Greenbelt Society, in a statement.

In a letter sent Oct. 19 on behalf of the Sea-to-Sea Greenbelt Society, the ELC accused the provincial government of neglecting its duty to manage public resources in an "economic, effective and efficient manner." In January 2007, the government allowed Western Forest Products, a private company, to remove three large properties from tree farm licences.

When the government has a forested area that could be used for logging, they often allow a company such as Western to take ownership of the land, so long as it follows certain guidelines pertaining to the area's long-term sustainability. By entering into a tree farm licence, the company gets access to thousands of hectares of valuable forest. However, if the company wants to develop the property, they must remove it from the licence first. Traditionally, the company must provide financial compensation to the government to do so.

But when the government allowed the removal of licences from the lands that included Jordan River and areas around the Sooke Potholes in January, it did so free of charge. It's unclear as to why the government chose not to ask for compensation.

"It is well recognized that compensation should flow from the companies to the province for that," said Melinda Skeels, an articled student at law with the ELC. "This is why we want the auditor general to look at it — because it doesn't seem to make a lot of sense in terms of managing public resources."

The government maintains some restrictions on the land, such as access for First Nations, but those are void if the land is sold. Such is the case with the Jordan River property, which was sold by Western Forest Products on Oct. 22 to a developer.

"This is Victoria's wild coast ... it is absolutely gorgeous waterfront and a highly ecologically valuable area that is now subject to development," said Skeels.

The public also loses a popular recreational property. Both the Surfrider Foundation and the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society support the ELC's request in hopes of retaining attractive destinations to surf and hike.

The ELC is acting on behalf of the Sea-to-Sea Greenbelt Society, a group dedicated to protecting the rural land and ecology of the West Coast. Before the removal of the tree farm licences, the areas were considered perpetually protected forest land. Greenbelt Society spokesperson Vicky Husband said the decision was made without public consideration.

"There was absolutely no consultation with First Nations, or affected communities, or any of the regional politicians," she said. "It shows a supreme arrogance and total lack of concern of what is in the public interest on the part of the forest minister."

While there is no way of going back on the sale, the ELC wants to change how forestry assets are handled in this province. Skeels would like to see a "coastal commission" that would protect and preserve forest land on the West Coast.

Skeels will deliver a presentaiton on the issue at a public forum on Thursday, Nov. 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the S.J. Willis School auditorium (923 Topaz Avenue).

By the numbers

The 28,000 hectares of released Jordan River land is an enormous area. To put that into perspective, here's what else is roughly 28,000 hectares:

- 2.82 billion large pizzas
- 2.25 billion Martlet pages
- 184,596 NHL hockey rinks
- 568 West Edmonton Malls
- 23 Neverland ranches
- 14 Cities of Victoria

- Jordon Gowans

JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Annual general meeting chair Patrice Pratt (left) and UVSS chair Tracy Ho kept order as students debated a contentious motion about course union funding.

Course unions denied funding increase

David Karp

A motion to increase funding to the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) course union control account by $5,000 was narrowly defeated 26-24 at the society's annual general meeting on Oct. 25.

The amendment to the UVSS budget was proposed by Randy Neville, president of THUGS, the history course union. This year's budget allocates $27,510 to course unions.

The UVSS is projecting $1,883,257 in revenue from membership fees this year, as well as $550,877 in profits from the businesses it operates. The UVSS projects a total surplus of $58,069 this year.

UVSS director of finance Jamie Strachan suggested holding a referendum to achieve the funding increase on a permanent basis.

"I would suggest running a referendum, if that is the course unions' and clubs' interests, to ensure that they see an increase on a permanent basis," he said. "This would be a one-time move ... if our businesses don't do that well, we may not see that surplus."

George Robinson, who ran for UVSS chairperson last year, said course union funding is important.

"I've spoken with a large number of course union executives over the last week — they all submitted a budget that was higher than the amount that the students' society allocated," Robinson said. "That still leaves a lot of money in surplus to cover any shortages."

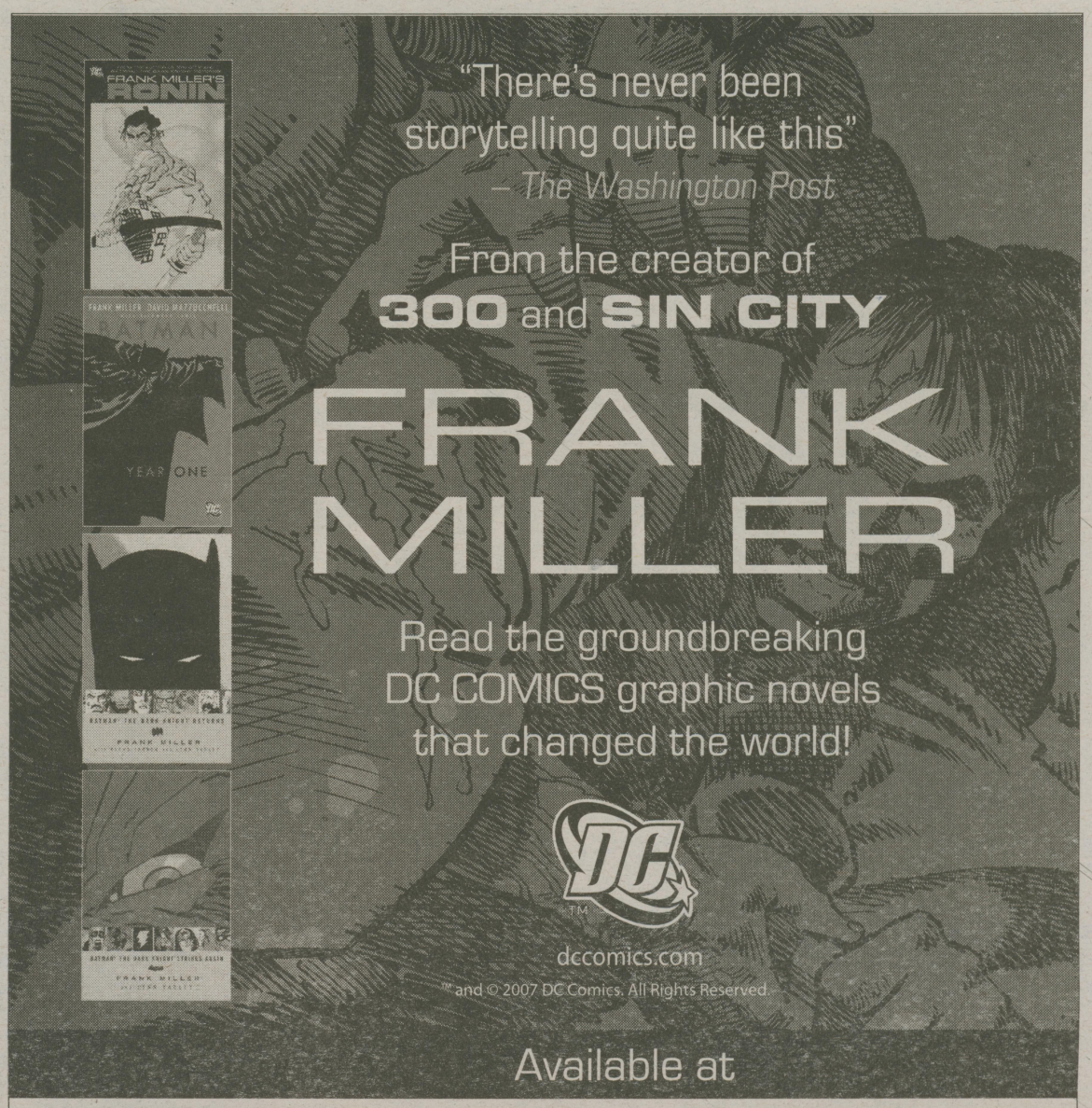
CORRECTION

The Martlet erroneously reported Oct. 18 that 300 teachers in Japan had been evicted. In fact, 300 teachers had been issued eviction notices.

CLARIFICATIONS

The Martlet reported Oct. 25 that Anthony Fenton said some aspects of the Canadian occupation of Aghanistan has been detrimental. In fact, Fenton said that all aspects of the occupation have been detrimental.

The Martlet also reported that Fenton said Canada's presence in Afghanistan was "an exercise in imperialism." Fenton was quoting Michael Ignatieff when he said this.



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Student teachers learn to tackle homophobia

Deena Kinarthy

Homophobia is still rampant in schools, but two groups at UVic are hoping to change that.

UVic's faculty of education and UVic Pride joined forces to conduct a workshop for elementary education students on how to integrate gender issues into the classroom. The workshop, held Oct. 24, was the first of its kind on Vancouver Island. It focused on problems such name-calling, discrimination, and homophobia.

Demand from students was so great that Pride Outreach, the group hosting the workshop, had a waiting list of people trying to get in, said Kelley Logue, chairperson of UVic Pride.

Brodie Metcalfe, a third-year philosophy major and one of three Pride workshop leaders, said some of the biggest dangers among schoolchildren and teachers in addressing homophobia is in not knowing how to use words and terms properly.

"If a teacher is really gung-ho about wanting to teach this terminology but they don't actually know what they really mean, and how to use them respectfully and disrespectfully, then that could be more damaging to students as they are growing up," said Metcalfe.

The workshop opened with a heated discussion on language and labels, challenging students' use of words such as transsexual, heterosexism, and queer.

The word "queer" elicited strong reactions among participants, and workshop leaders were compelled to explain how the term has changed from negative and derogatory to positive and encompassing over time.

But name-calling is still a problem in schools. According to the 2001 Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network National School Climate Survey, 83 per cent of queer students reported being verbally harassed because of their sexual orientation and 81 per cent reported that faculty or staff rarely intervened when hearing such remarks. The survey interviewed 900 middle- and high-school-aged kids, and found that 84 per cent of students reported hearing homophobic remarks, such as "faggot" or "dyke" frequently or often and 21 per cent reported being physically assaulted.

Leanna Madill, an education PhD student and sessional instructor at UVic, said education and knowledge are the keys to understanding and having the right tools to deal with queer issues in the classroom and in society at large. She said there has been a long-standing need to organize such workshops.

"I found that the issue of sexual orientation of educators and how to address various lifestyles for elementary and secondary students is not raised in my courses and I have not felt educated enough myself to speak to the issues at a level to benefit my students," said Madill. "I believe educators want to promote equality and prevent ignorance around homophobia but they need [more] education and resources; the UVic Pride presenters were able to prepare and suggest very helpful resources to meet that need."

Though the first of it's kind, Logue said the workshop will not be the last.

"It seems well-supported by the faculty and its members and we/they are together planning on expanding it further," said Logue in an e-mail.

Metcalfe said he hopes that workshops like these will continue at UVic, adding that more hours are needed to cover more material, indicated by the fact that the presenters ran out of time and did not cover every topic on their agenda.

One of the outreach team's goals is to make UVic Pride workshop's information booklets available in the UVic library. More information on can be found by visiting the UVic Pride office in SUB 118.

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Afghan parliamentarian Malalai Joya headed a rally to end the war in Afghanistan.

No more occupation

Meaghan Kerr

"In the name of democracy and peace: dear friends, while Afghans are being marginalized, suppressed and silenced, you give a helping hand to me as a small voice of my suffering people."

So began a lecture by controversial Afghan parliamentarian Malalai Joya on Oct. 28 at UVic's David Lam Auditorium.

Joya spoke as a closure to the Pan-Canadian Day of Action Against War in Afghanistan. The weekend saw major anti-war demonstrations in 21 Canadian cities, and Joya was in both Vancouver and Victoria to speak at events. The 29-year-old critic and activist is travelling across Canada to raise awareness on human rights issues in Afghanistan, particularly women's rights.

Earlier in the day, protesters met at the B.C. legislature before marching to the Canadian Forces' recruitment office on Fort Street, with Joya as a special guest. The event was sponsored by Victoria's Canada Out of Afghanistan coalition, made up of several anti-war groups including BC Labour Against War, the Raging Grannies, and UVic's Students Against War.

> "We want liberation, not occupation."
> – *Malalai Joya*

Joya has survived four assassination attempts and now travels wearing a burka and has several bodyguards while in Afghanistan. After repeatedly denouncing other members of government, she was suspended from the Wolesi Jirga (Afghanistan's national assembly) in May of this year.

Joya's lecture concentrated on corruption of government, the plight of Afghan women, and criticism of the NATO-led mission. She cited four major opium producers who are also members of Parliament as proof of rampant government corruption, and claimed that over 60 per cent of MPs are criminals through their association with the opium trade.

"There is no question that Afghanistan needs international support," Joya said, but added frequently, "We want liberation, not occupation."

She accused NATO of propping up a government for appearance's sake, while in reality occupying and repressing the country.

"The Northern Alliance [current government] has the same mind as the Taliban," she said, adding that people are no more free than they were under the Taliban rule of the '90s. Joya said farmland takeovers by the wealthy, warlord rule, and kidnappings still occur on a regular basis.

The 2004 Afghan constitution states that "man and woman have equal rights before the law," however it does not explicitly prohibit forced marriages or the bartering of girls. In the first six months of 2007, 250 women committed suicide, a number Joya says is higher than at any time in Afghan history.

"Today people are sandwiched between two enemies—the Northern Alliance with the U.S., and the Taliban," she said.

Joya compared the Northern Alliance to Mussolini and Pinochét, using legitimate channels to solidify power. Record numbers of Afghans voted in 2005 show the country wants democracy, she said, but their choice is limited.

"The only hope we have is in democratically-minded people of Afghanistan," said Joya. "I believe the power of people is as the power of God."

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Sexual assaults continue despite activism

Campus presents heightened risk to women, says assualt centre director

Rosemary Westwood

The Victoria Women's Sexual Assault Centre (WSAC) reached 25 years of service on Oct. 25, and marked the anniversary by raising awareness that one in three women will experience sexualized violence in their lifetime.

"Sexualized violence affects all of us in that there are certainly costs to our society associated with that," said Sandy McLellan, WSAC's executive director. "We want to bring it to everyone's attention that it takes all of us to create a society in which that doesn't happen."

Even with the centre's work to end sexual assaults against both men and women over the past two decades, assaults continue to occur — and campuses across the country continue to present elevated risks to women.

"Campuses do present a higher risk and that age category, that age of 19 to 29, is one of the higher risks," McLellan said.

A Statistics Canada report from 2006 stated that four out of five female undergraduates on Canadian campuses are victims of violence in a dating relationship. That statistic hasn't changed since 1993.

McLellan said the majority of victims of sexualized violence are women.

"Given that it's a crime under-reported, we accompanied 112 recent assaults to hospital last year, and of those two were men," she said.

According to the UVic Counselling Services website, one out of four women will be sexually assaulted by the time she is 21.

In the Canadian criminal code, sexual assault is defined as any non-consensual, unwanted sexual touching.

"It can range from anything from having your ass grabbed when you're at the bar to forced intercourse," said Robin Tosczak, a co-ordinator with UVic's Anti-Violence Project (AVP), the campus sexual assault centre.

McLellan, director of WSAC for 12 years, said that current attitudes toward women create a society that condones sexual assault.

"Our society has tended to devalue women and children, and when you devalue someone then they are more likely to have power exerted over them and that often leads to violence," she said. "Still, our laws and system basically don't treat it as a serious thing."

McLellan cited the low rate of conviction and low sentences typical of sexual assault cases. A 1992 study on violence against women found that 60 per cent of Canadian college-aged males said they would commit sexual assault if they were certain they would not get caught.

"It's appalling," said Tosczak, but she added she's not surprised by the statistic. "There's been anti-rape and anti-violence work happening in Canada pretty hard core for 30 years, and I just don't get how those kinds of attitudes still prevail and how much people still don't get it."

Tosczak said that most women aren't assaulted by strangers, but by people they know. Most people who access the services of the AVP are victims of date rape, and 80 per cent of survivors of sexual assault know the perpetrator, she said.

"It's really the most prevalent sexual assault, all over the place," Tosczak said. "When you talk about date rape as being something different, it perpetuates the myth that people who sexually assault other people are creepy strangers jumping out of dark alleys, and that's just not the reality."

At UVic, Tosczak said the majority of assaults occur in residences. "It makes sense that it's there because the number one place that assaults happen is in the home," she said.

Last year, the AVP conducted an online survey to assess occurrences of sexual assault. While their sample wasn't diverse enough to generate reliable statistics, the survey found that UVic is comparable to the larger community.

Campus Security keeps statistics of sexual assault on UVic's campus, but those numbers under-represent the problem, said Tosczak.

"They say one in 10 people will report a sexual assault, and if they know the person that did it, one in 100," said Tosczak. "The reported numbers are always extremely low."

JENNIFER ZHOU PHOTO

Robin Tosczak, co-oridnator for UVic's Anti-Violence Project, said 80 per cent of sexual assault victims know the perpetrator and that the majority of UVic's sexual assualts occur in residences.

According to WSAC, only six per cent of sexual assaults are reported. Campus Security only has access to those cases where the assault was reported on campus, either to counselling services, health services or AVP. Campus Security statistics were unavailable as of press time.

According to Saanich police Sgt. John Price, four sexual assaults involving a UVic campus address were reported during the 2004-05 school year.

"That doesn't mean they were actually confirmed reports," he said. "That's just four reports that were started."

The Saanich Police Department received one report of campus sexual assault during each of the 2005-06 and 2006-07 school years. Since September 2007, Saanich police have received no reports of sexual assaults on campus.

McLellan said WSAC has close ties with UVic to address the unique situation of the campus's university-aged population.

"We certainly work closely with groups like the Anti-Violence Project and we do training with the residence advisors so that if there are assaults, they will know how to deal with them," said McLellan.

Both McLellan and Tosczak agreed that men can effect change by increasing respect towards women. The best prevention for women is to educate themselves, said McLellan.

Tosczak stopped short of giving specific instructions for women to help them remain safe. "As an organization we try and avoid all those quick tips on how to prevent assault because as a long term strategy, they just don't work," she said.

Tosczak said mass e-mails teaching women how to protect themselves against stranger rape only serve to support the idea that it's up to women to stop themselves from being assaulted, and even make sexual assault acceptable.

"The problem isn't that women walk in parks by themselves," said Tosczak. "The problem is that those women get sexually assaulted."

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Pitchers return to Felicita's on Wednesdays

Two closures caused campus pub to give up pitchers on busy nights — now, it's bottoms up

Bryan Linge

Felicita's is again serving thirsty students pitchers on Wednesday.

The campus pub pulled Wednesday-night pitchers in September because of two separate incidents of over-consumption in the past year, each resulted in suspensions of the pub's liquor license and forced Felicita's to shut down temporarily.

The first incident closed Felicita's from April 29 until May 10 because of liquor license violations at the SUB Party held in September 2006. According to a report by adjudicator Sheldon Seigel, a liquor inspector and a police officer attended the SUB Party and found cases of over-consumption.

The second incident, which forced Felicita's to shut down May 18 to May 31, was also a case of over-consumption, though just by a single patron.

"We need to pay attention," said Marne Jensen, general manager of the UVic Students' Society (UVSS), which runs Felicita's, at the time of the second closure. "If the Liquor Board thought we weren't listening the first time around, we're listening now."

> "We control it better, the staff is used to it, and we look for it now."
>
> *– Jeff Delisle, Felicita's manager*

The closures convinced Jeff Delisle, Felicita's manager, to temporarily phase out pitchers for a period at the beginning of the semester.

"I took the decision to not sell pitchers through the bar or on very busy nights because we have had some problems in the past," said Delisle. The bar has only recently reintroduced pitchers.

Drinking directly out of a pitcher violates B.C.'s liquor laws regarding portion sizes, which stipulate that you are only allowed to serve a patron two pints at a time.

But Delisle said Felicita's is over the past problems of allowing over-consumption. "We control it better, the staff is used to it, and we look for it now," he said.

Still a no-booze focus

After events of last spring, the UVSS is seeking a different focus for events this year, planning more all-ages affairs.

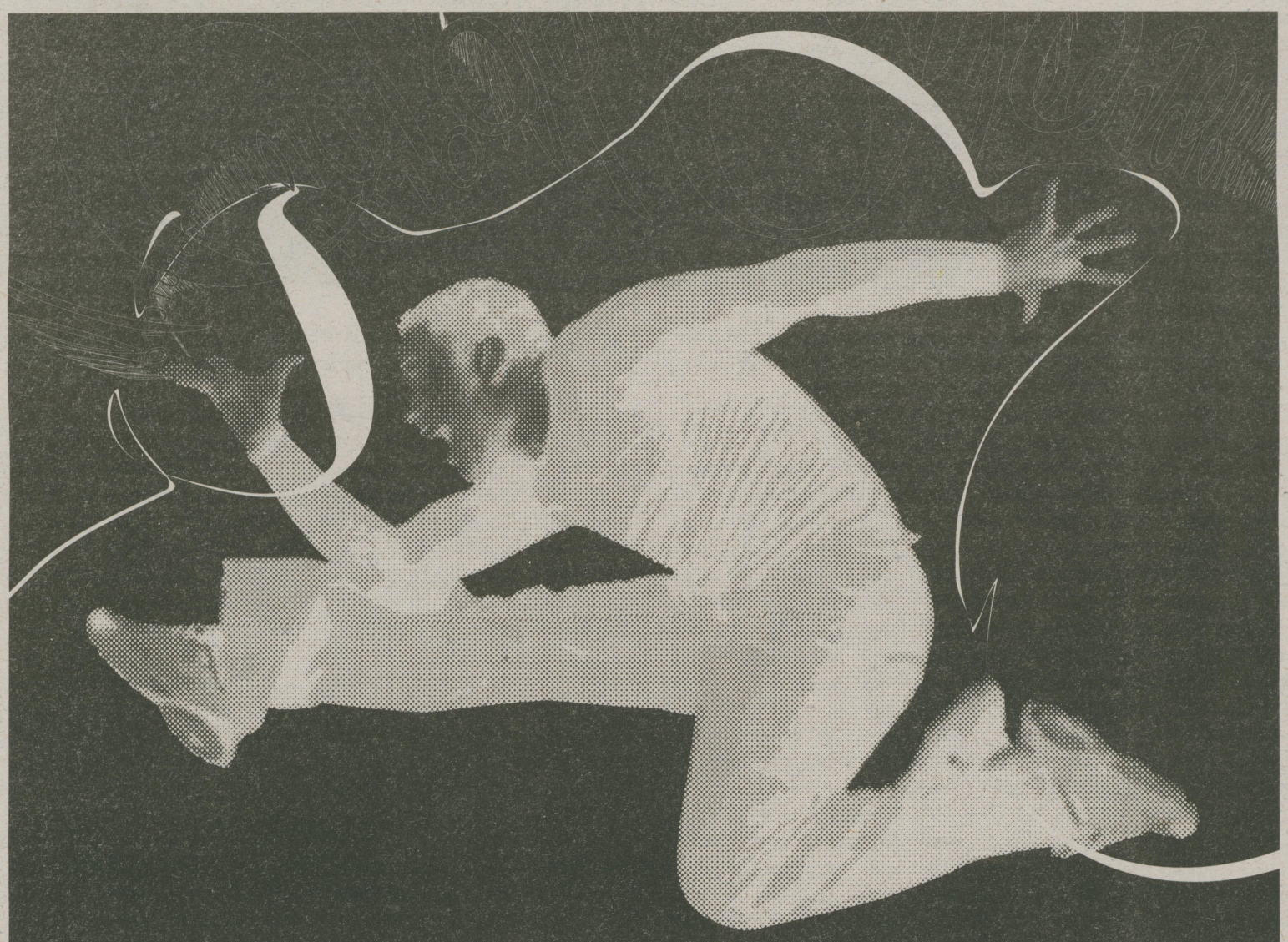
"There are a lot of first-years on campus, even second-years who aren't 19 yet and until now there was a focus on more licensed events," explained Tracy Ho, chairperson of the UVSS. "This year we are consciously trying to plan events that are more accessible to more students."

The first such event was Cornival during the first week of the fall semester, which included, as the name suggests, corn on the cob. Other events during that week were performances by local bands, a barbecue and a pancake breakfast.

Ho emphasized that she "wants more creative, fun events."

Though the SUB Party will not take place this year, licensed events are not completely disappearing.

Felicita's hosts themed nights that rotate throughout the week, including an open mic and jam night on Mondays, a poker tour Tuesday nights and theme parties on Fridays.



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Seven injured at all-ages show

An unprovoked brawl and box-cutter attack at an all-ages show in Fernwood on Oct. 26 has left seven people injured, some with possibly disfiguring slash wounds.

The Fernwood Community Association has cancelled future shows. Four people were arrested. One was wielding a box cutter, another a skateboard with nails in it.

International conference

More than 300 students, professors, researchers and practitioners from over 30 countries gathered at the Empress Hotel Oct. 22 to 25 for the first international conference on the social economy. Participants came from Brazil and France to attend.

NEWS BRIEF

UVic to use recycled paper

UVic announced it will switch all its bond paper supplies to 100 per cent post-consumer waste content starting Jan. 1, 2008, the first university to do so in B.C.

The announcement coincided with International Campus Sustainability Day, Oct. 24.

The university consumes 72 million sheets of paper annually and currently uses 30 per cent post-consumer waste content.

"We're very excited to be able to introduce this change as part of our sustainability initiatives on campus," said UVic sustainability co-ordinator Sarah Webb in a press release. "Using 100 per cent recycled paper means we will be helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while also enhancing our ethical purchasing practices."

This week in Martlet history

Stories from the Martlet archives

Nov. 1, 2001 — The B.C. Liberals reviewed their policy on offshore oil and gas projects, with the possibility of lifting a ban on the industry as early as January 2002. The government was fulfilling a campaign promise to determine if oil and gas development would be scientifically and environmentally sound.

Nov. 4, 1993 — Alex Jamieson, a former UVic student in the School of Social Work, was still waiting for a response to his claim of harassment against a social work faculty member, which he filed in April 1993. A panel found Jamieson was not harassed by individuals in the School, but did conclude there were problems of racism in the department.

Nov. 5, 1981 — The SUB cafeteria and pub were suffering from food theft. The main problem was theft of fries and hamburgers, but general manger David Clode said that over 100 beer jugs, worth roughly $300 in total, had gone missing during the year.

NATIONAL NEWS

Nude art banned from bookstore

Laura Godfrey
EXCALIBUR

TORONTO (CUP) — Artists and members of the Art Gallery of York University (AGYU) were shocked after they were asked to take down the Playing Doctor exhibit from the York University Bookstore's window one week after its installation.

The AGYU exhibit, intended to remain in the bookstore's front window from Oct. 26 to Dec. 9, was taken down in what the artists and the gallery are calling censorship.

The collaborative piece between artists Shannon Gerard and Stef Lenk is an attempt to facilitate awareness about people's bodies and the importance of being checked for testicular and breast cancer.

The display was a larger-than-life representation of popular board game Operation. It included life-size cutouts of a nude man and woman with crocheted breasts and penis.

Stones were placed inside the crocheted pieces to replicate the lumps found in the body of a cancer patient. The display was accompanied by a printed statement of the artists's intentions.

Steven Glassman, manager of the York University Bookstore, said complaints were received between Oct. 24 and 26 while the exhibit was being installed.

"From what we [at the AGYU] understand, there's one professor who's particularly upset about it," said Lenk.

But Glassman denied that the complaint was from a professor.

"I got this complaint, or comment, that this fellow, who I think is learned, but not a professor by any means, innocently asked me, but certainly not in a demanding way, when it was going to be removed because he wants to avoid having his child walk past there for the duration of that exhibit," said Glassman.

Gerard maintained that the exhibit was not supposed to be "an inflammatory project."

"It's supposed to start a dialogue about fear," she said. "I guess censorship does that better than anything, so on one hand, I'm not disappointed about this censorship at all."

> "It's supposed to start a dialogue about fear. I guess censorship does that better than anything."
> *– Shannon Gerard, artist*

Glassman insisted that the removal of the exhibit was not an act of censorship, but a misunderstanding about where it was to be displayed and for how long.

"There's a misunderstanding, because the front window display was something that was not anticipated or planned in advance," he said. "When [the artists and curators] came in to do the final planning of the exhibit, I expressed surprise and I refused the front window. I was convinced [by them] to put it in for a week — seven days. It was very clear to me."

Emelie Chhangur and Michael Maranda, assistant curators at the AGYU, both denied that such an agreement was made.

"AGYU would not speak publicly about its removal if this were the case," said Chhangur.

Maranda said that the verbal agreement was for the exhibit to remain in the window until Dec. 9.

He also expressed frustration that the gallery has been unable to speak to those who were uncomfortable with the content of the exhibit.

"There's always a certain amount of discomfort with contemporary art in the general public. Usually how that would be dealt with in the gallery is by trying to have a conversation with people who feel offended by the work ... which wasn't possible in this case, not knowing who was making the complaints," he said.

According to Glassman, the front window should be used to display bookstore promotions and merchandise, but he "would love to continue working with the art gallery if we can clear up misunderstandings."

PHOTO COURTESY OF ART GALLERY OF YORK UNIVERSITY

These depictions of nude people with crocheted body parts were too much for one patron of York Univerisity's bookstore, whose complaint caused the display to be removed.

Young communists back at University of Alberta

Nadia Sadi
INTERCAMP

EDMONTON (CUP) — The Young Communist League (YCL) held its first meeting at the University of Alberta since the collapse of the Soviet Union 15 years ago.

"We have good policies about putting people and people's needs before corporate greed," said Johan Boyden, the YCL's new general secretary.

The meeting attracted about 10 people, which he said is high for the YCL. Among the issues up for debate were youth poverty and unemployment, the rising cost of education and the crises facing young workers. The group also discussed how to build the YCL in Alberta.

"There is a real need for a stronger, a broader and a deeper opposition to the big business and corporate agenda," Boyden said.

There were several speakers at the meeting, including Sean Currie, the education facilitator for the Edmonton Club of the Communist Party in Canada.

"I organized this in order to educate our members, in order to publicize the fact that the YCL exists," said Katharine Carmichael, organizer of Edmonton's YCL chapter.

The Young Communist League was founded in 1923 and set up relief camps across Alberta during the Great Depression when it had its first big membership push.

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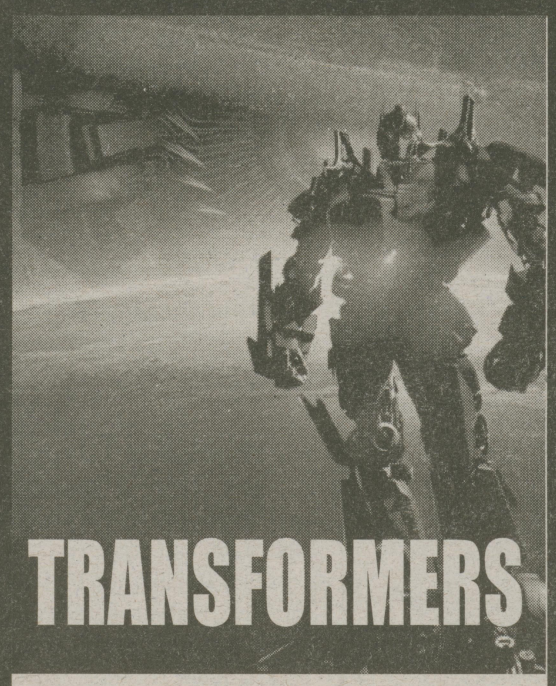

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Opinions

EDITORIAL

Let's rethink drug discourse

We know drugs are harmful.

In grade school we get the this-is-your-brain-on-drugs lecture and learn many ways to say no. But what's missing is how to say yes in moderation. People of all ages are doing drugs, and it's time to recognize that information based on abstinence does more harm than good.

This was illustrated clearly on Oct. 23 when four teens, ages 13 and 14, were admitted to the Victoria General Hospital after overdosing on what the youths thought was ecstasy, but may have been crystal meth. They all survived. Considering they told police they had taken upwards of nine pills, they were very lucky.

Perhaps nobody told the kids that they should take just one pill — even half a pill — and wait to see its effect. Perhaps they didn't know how to find a trusted dealer. When kids get into a situation where they want to try a narcotic, the dialogue about harm reduction is missing. Adults have only told them to say no and threatened them with the damage they'll be doing to their bodies by choosing to use the drug. They teach them to be afraid instead of informed.

It's necessary for teens to know which drugs are most harmful. Having a teacher or RCMP officer come into a high school preaching the virtues of marijuana abstinence because it is a gateway drug often demeans their credibility when those kids see someone they know smoke dope and not move on to harder drugs. If their information is demonstrably false, why should students believe *anything else these leaders say?*

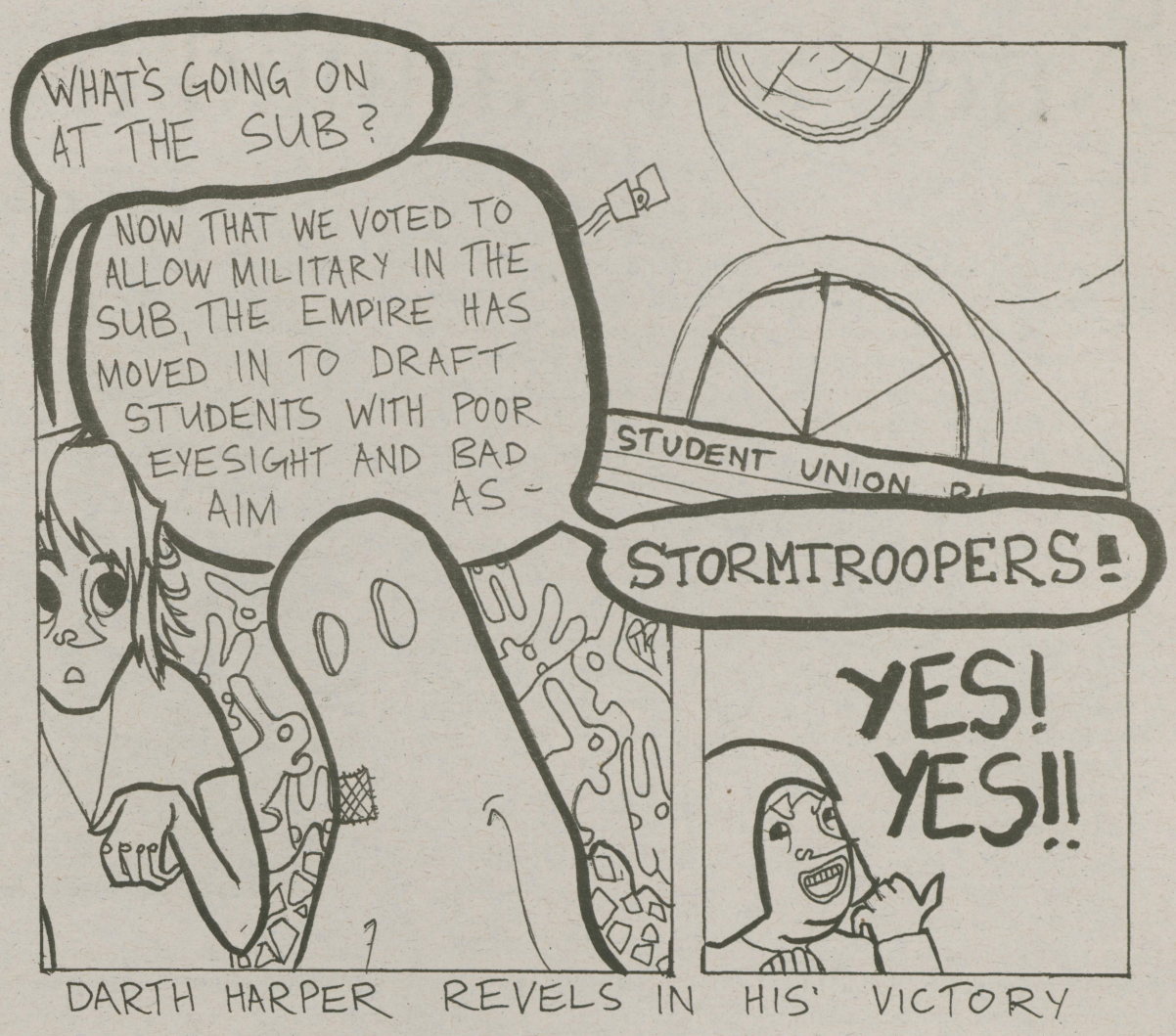
Teaching 13-year-olds about safely using drugs might make parents believe that it's encouraging them to do drugs at an early age. But even for the kids who will choose to resist the pull of drugs, it's useful for them to understand what's going on with their peers and know the symptoms of an overdose. Facts learned at an early age can be carried through life. There are many university students that still don't know how to recognize dangerous habits.

High school students need access to resources that do more than scare them about the harms of extreme drug use. That's not to understate the risks of addiction and overdoses, because they are very real. But some teenagers are going to get high no matter what anyone says to them, so informing them on the expected effects of different narcotics, as well as safe dosing quantities and techniques would reduce the risk of inevitable youthful experimentation.

Instead of focusing on the risks of addiction, more should be done to highlight the symptoms of addiction. This way, when a student graduates high school and moves on to university, they will be more self-aware when it comes to drug and alcohol use. Twenty-somethings tend to throw caution to the wind as it is, but surviving their first forays into drug and alcohol use without being aware of the demons they may encounter can lead to a sense of indestructibility.

Kids need to learn about the real consequences of drugs — not just the worst-case scenarios and the horror stories peddled from to school to school by counsellors and the police, but also the very real, recognizable effects of these drugs.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at our weekly editorial meeting every Friday in the Martlet office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members. Our next editorial meeting is Nov. 2 at 3:30 p.m.



T.K. LONGMIRE GRAPHIC

LETTERS

Zombies badly behaved

The Zombie Walk runs a fine line between good fun and anti-social. I was "attacked" by the 2006 Victoria Zombie Walk, and found everyone to be respectful and brain-hungry.

It was a good time. However, I have also been subject to the 2006 Vancouver Zombie Walk, which was quite different. At this event, deafening death metal was blasted by the procession and I witnessed many people aggressively hounded by zombie-wannabes.

I learned later that several children were driven to tears and forced to retreat into stores for respite from the music and intimidation. I was sorely tempted to take down these bullies like I would real zombies — with high explosives.

All joking aside, I don't want to accuse the Victoria walkers of being responsible for the actions of others. However, you are collectively responsible to police your own conduct when you take to the streets. Instruct everyone in your group to treat the public with a balance of fun and respect, and ensure that those who don't are held accountable.

If you plead indifference to the feelings of others, you'll have to deal with the authorities — or worse, me, in a zombie-hunter costume, armed to the teeth and ready to fight.

- Rory Black, UVic student

Happy? Sad? Enraged? Engaged? Tell us: letters@martlet.ca
The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community. Letters must be submitted by e-mail, include your real name and affiliation to UVic, and have "Letter to the editor" in the subject line. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited.

Afghanistan article offensive

I found Ingmar Lee's opinion piece (Canada's cowardly complicity, Oct. 18) ignorant, short sighted and in some cases (his justification of suicide bombing) extremely offensive. In his attack on America, Lee said, "Americans see themselves as the greatest epitome of the human race." I am an American and I do not see Americans as the epitome of the human race — neither do millions of other Americans.

As offensive as that statement was, in the following two paragraphs Lee outdoes himself. In the form of a hypothetical, he justifies the practice of making oneself into a bomb and then walking into a crowd of innocent people and killing as many women, children and men as possible. Suicide bombers deserve no sympathy. I agree with Lee that a suicide bomber's reasoning for destroying themselves and their countrymen is more complex than simply "hating our freedoms," but they do oppose the freedoms of Afghans.

To answer Lee's question about why we are there, it's because, as a recent poll demonstrated, the people of Afghanistan want us there. We are there because the Afghan people have suffered under the boot of tyranny for too long, and deserve the same freedoms we enjoy in Canada.

- Kailer Mullet, UVic student

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UVSS should vote for students

I would like to thank Edward Pullman for writing in the Martlet (Plenty of reasons to oppose military, Oct. 25). By doing so, he illustrated one of the fundamental flaws of the UVSS board of directors.

Pullman stated, "I voted to ban military recruiters from the SUB because of my opposition to the growing militarization of our society, seen in the transformation that has occurred in our military in the past two years and our complicity and co-operation with American foreign policy and the war on terror."

That's great, but it's not about Pullman's opinion — it's about my opinion and every other students opinion that he is supposed to represent. It is Pullman's job as a UVSS director to keep his finger on the pulse of what the students want, not what he wants. As was shown at the UVSS annual general meeting, Pullman and his colleagues' distorted reality is nothing even remotely similar to that of the student body. I sure hope Pullman takes a second to talk to more people throughout campus and get a much more informed idea of how we feel on issues and maybe, just maybe, he'll avoid another debacle.

- Duncan Havens, UVic student

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Shrooming in stumpfields

Ingmar Lee

Every autumn I head out toward Jordan River to pick wild mushrooms.

Years ago, having comprehended the worldwide scale of the decimation of fish stocks, I quit fishing and channelled my predatory proclivities into the hunt for mushrooms instead. The delight of discovering a luscious patch of mushrooms easily compares with the thrill of catching fish. But these days it's getting more and more difficult to find a forest where wild mushrooms grow.

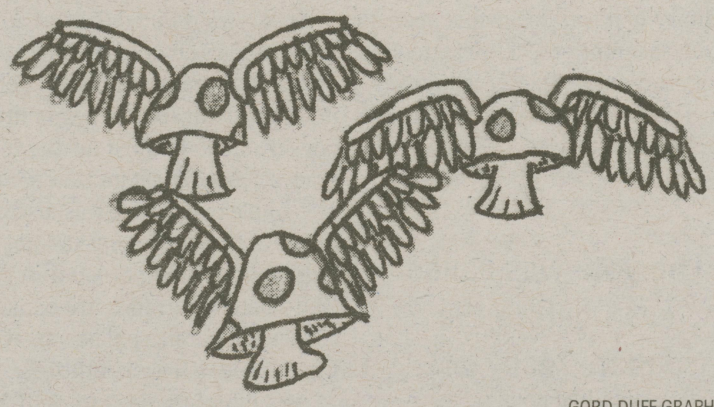
A few years ago, I used to go searching for matsutake, also known as pine mushrooms, which only grow in primeval forests. Due to its reputation as an aphrodisiac, the matsutake is much sought after by the Japanese, who will pay up to $150 for three prime specimens. But everything in B.C.'s woods defers to the logging industry and now, on Vancouver Island, the primeval forests where matsutakes grow have been virtually exterminated.

These days, I've taken to going after chanterelles instead, which grow en masse in second-growth forests. But here on the southern part of the Island, even these immature forests have now been leveled again by logging corporations such as TimberWest, Western Forest Products (WFP) and American logging giant Weyerhaeuser, which cut and ran (no pun intended) from the Island several years ago. These giant corporations, which are guided by the long-term "forestry" vision of quarterly dividends to shareholders, have logged out virtually all of Vancouver Island's second-growth timber, right down to 30-year-old "pecker-poles" which can barely produce a two-by-four.

The other day, when I arrived at my reliable old chanterelle patch — after climbing over one of the companies' gates — I was disgusted, although not surprised, to see WFP's latest example of sustainable, "world-class" logging. I was met with a 100-hectare stump field, which featured a clump of five teetering trees left behind in the middle of the clearcut. This is an example of the "variable retention" logging scam, which from the air can be seen at a glance: single solitary trees left every hundred metres, or timber left standing in a road bight so that when it blows down, it can be easily removed by obtaining the readily available "salvage permit" or, at the very worst, worthless timber in the cutblock left behind for "structural representation." Massive clearcuts stretch out from horizon to horizon.

Having exhausted the timber resource, these massive corporations, with a little help from the provincial government, can now provide their unit-holders with far more enormous returns by getting out of forestry altogether and selling off the stumpfields. Jordan River is just the most current scam in B.C.'s sordid history of "log-and-flog" deforestation.

Thanks to Logging Minister Rich Coleman, WFP was able to sleaze 70,000 acres out of their Vancouver Island tree farm licence. Having logged it flat, they are now selling it all off for real estate.



GORD DUFF GRAPHIC

The same goes for Victoria's current development monstrosity at Bear Mountain, which was public forest land until the arrival of Gordon Campbell's neo-conservative regime. Although environmental requirements for the logging of B.C.'s public forests are laughable, there are no restrictions on the damage which can be done to private land. Once removed from their tree farm license, the logging companies can gut the forests without any regulatory barriers, and then subdivide and sell off the land to developers.

The Ministry of Logging has such little interest in non-timber forest products that this potentially massive resource is ignored by the province. People who harvest wild produce are finding it increasingly difficult to sell as the government tightens regulations around the food chain. Certainly stores such as Thrifty's, Safeway or Save-On Foods will have nothing to do with wild produce and, by the look of it, prefer to stock their shelves with industrially-grown products. Smaller grocers like Peppers, The Market on Yates and Lifestyles are selling chanterelles and other wild mushrooms for as much as $17.95 a pound. A few years ago, many of Victoria's gourmet restaurants were eager to buy chanterelles from pickers. But the other day, chefs didn't even know what a chanterelle was when I showed up with 20 pounds of the freshly-picked mushrooms.

The Campbell regime has been an utter catastrophe for Vancouver Island's forests, and with the WFP Jordan River sell-off and the awful Bear Mountain development precedents, our botanical splendours are being ripped off and ruined, never to return. It's a tragedy that our second growth forests, which once offered the opportunity to practice ethical, sustainable logging (there's no such thing as the ethical logging in the Earth's final primeval forests), as well as the harvesting of a variety of non-timber resources, are being squandered now, mostly for the American raw-log market, and then being flipped for subdivision development.

When Campbell came to power, seven of his top 10 election financiers were logging companies which contributed about $1.5 million to his campaign. It's shameful how cheaply these corporations bought themselves a B.C. government.

Cats threaten other species

Owners need to realize the impacts their cats have on ecosystems

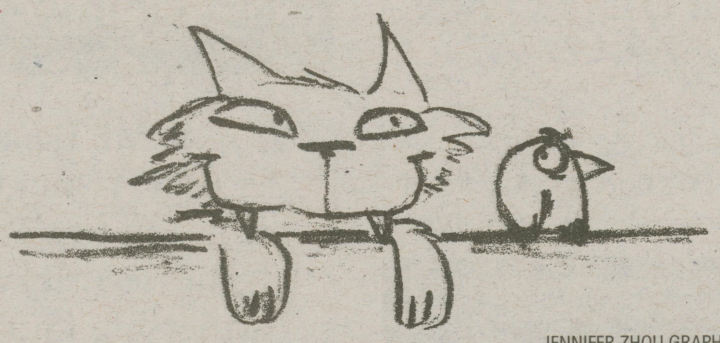
Kimberly Bruce

Cats are great companions, but they can also be killers.

During the summer, the Times Colonist published a list of B.C.'s most endangered species, and stated predation from domestic cats was partly responsible for many animals on the list. But it's the owners who are really responsible, not the cats.

Studies on the effects of cats as an introduced predator show the yearly carnage. A study by University of Wisconsin researchers estimated between 20 million and 150 million songbirds are killed by cats every year in Southern Wisconsin alone.

Songbird Survival, a non-profit dedicated to the preservation of songbirds in Britain, financed a study on invasive cat predation and found each cat kills an average of 5.5 birds a year — this would total 55 million birds a year. They also found that cats kill reptiles, amphibians and small mammals, such as the protected dormouse. The British cat population is capable of killing 250 million creatures a year.



JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

According to Ian Fraser, Victoria's senior animal control officer, there are no estimates on the number of cats living in Greater Victoria. The Capital Regional District's cat licensing proposal, with which they recently approached Victoria City Council, could aid in estimating the effects cats are having on Victoria's ecosystems.

It is already breaking a bylaw if your cat trespasses on another person's property, and the property owner has the right to trap it and take it to the pound.

North American species are not adapted to defend themselves against cats. Ground-nesting birds and most songbirds during the nesting season are vulnerable. They take chances to feed their young, and are especially at risk early in the morning or evening.

The protected Garry Oak meadow behind my house is a habitat for ground-nesting birds. I see cats hunting there daily. I've seen cats hunting in Beacon Hill Park, Swan Lake Park and bird sanctuaries. This is the hypocrisy of a city full of people who claim to be environmentally conscious, and then let their cats hunt freely.

As an owner of two dogs, I live in this city under constant surveillance and threat of ticketing. Canines are not allowed to run free into other people's gardens, or chase down and kill wild animals for entertainment. UVic students would be horrified if they saw a dog killing bunnies. We know that senseless killing is wrong.

If you want to have a cat for a pet, please keep it inside. If you want to take your cat outside, teach it to walk on a leash (dogs don't like it at first either). It is common for cat-lovers in Calgary to use enclosed cat runs because bylaws concerning felines are more enforced. Cat trappings are common and all cats are now required to be licensed. They had to take action years ago because their ground-nesting songbirds were disappearing.

Thirty years ago dogs ran free about this city unleashed and unlicensed, but we now keep them confined out of respect for wildlife and our neighbours' property. In this day of habitat loss and pollution threatening many species, we should be responsible enough not to let our pets help hasten the extinction of birds and small mammals. This includes those of us who own cats.

Vote was ugly but democratic

Allan Ferguson

It was quite an exciting climax. A standing-room-only crowd filled the Michèle Pujol room on Oct. 25 in an exercise in direct democracy. This time, democracy was served — more or less.

Some people from the pro-ban camp said the anti-ban side attempted to stifle debate by repeatedly calling the question. The vote was called even before the debate really got going. This was disappointing — if we are to make an important decision we should at least discuss it for a while first.

The annual general meeting (AGM) was the appropriate time and place for such a discussion. Unlike provincial and federal elections where one simply shows up, votes and leaves, the AGM procedure used by the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) specifically allowed time for debate before a vote is called, and that time should be used. Attempting to end debate before it begins is not exactly the epitome of democracy.

There were also grumblings that the pro-ban side would attempt to filibuster the meeting, possibly prompting the calls for the question. But a filibuster does not seem like a substantial threat when a majority of the assembly can end the debate at practically any point in the proceedings.

But while some debate was certainly warranted, was an extensive one truly necessary? It quickly became clear that the arguments being made were the same arguments that had been made repeatedly online, in the Oct. 18 debate, in the Martlet, and in person over the past few weeks. A drawn-out debate would have been an exercise in redundancy.

It seems unlikely that many students at the AGM came without having made up their minds. The five weeks since the controversy broke in the Martlet must have been enough time to make up one's mind on the issue. Indeed, considering that nearly everyone departed immediately after the issue of the military ban was decided, it seems a fair assumption that practically everyone knew exactly what they were there for, including how they planned to vote.

> The vote was called even before the debate really got going. This was disappointing.

In the end everyone got what they came for, which was to have their say in the form of a vote. No amount of debate, or lack of it, changes that.

All this is integral to democracy. All the conflict and controversy is a normal byproduct of the pushing and pulling that goes on between the various groups and interests. The conflict can become very acrimonious despite neither group being completely in the right nor the wrong, distorting the issues in the process. But that's part of what makes politics so much fun.

Perhaps it's best to remember Winston Churchill's famous quip that "democracy is the worst form of government except for all those others that have been tried."

Time for tinkering is over

Roshan Virk

Award-winning professor John Taylor Gatto once said, "A vampire network like a school, which tears off huge chunks of time and energy needed for building community and family — and always asks for more — needs to have a stake driven through its heart and nailed into its coffin."

Gatto's critiques are disturbingly relevant to the university education system in Canada.

I took two years off after high school and re-entered the education system at Camosun College, petrified, but dedicated to becoming a lawyer. Thus, I aimed for the high grades needed to get into law school. The whole experience was discouraging — I took the marks I got as judgments of my personal worth. Gatto believes grades are trinkets of subordination, a philosophy with which I began to sympathize.

I was later admitted to the UVic political science honours program, but my malaise about the education system only grew. It wasn't just grading that bothered me, it was testing methods as well. I had to memorize copious amounts of literature and regurgitate it in an isolated environment. When in the real world will I be in a situation where I'm cut off from other people, the Internet and books? Wouldn't it be more constructive to be tested in a realistic environment?

I had high hopes for UVic. I thought that the education would be of a superior quality to Camosun. I was mostly wrong. Initially I blamed professors, but soon I began to question that assumption too.

Dave Thomas, a sessional instructor at UVic last year, said, "I'm now working 60 to 80 hours per week for the pittance that sessional [instructors] are paid at this university," and that while the university profits, "it comes at the expense of people's livelihood, dignity, and well-being."

Erica Patterson, a sessional English professor at UBC, said she earned $5,200 per course, and given that sessional instructors are permitted to teach a maximum of three courses per semester, her maximum earnings were a measly $31,000 per academic year.

Patterson also said that instructors are normally hired on very short notice — usually a week or two before students enter classes, which gives them about two weeks to prepare three university-level courses.

Add to the equation the enormous amount of pressure to publish and it's no wonder classes seem disorganized. Students fall victim as well. I worked very hard to maintain a high GPA to get into law school, cutting myself off from family, friends and my community. Often, I would type from 10 to 12 hours a day to get essays in on time.

The effort took its toll. When I went to the doctor because my hands were hurting, he told me that I had a serious permanent case of carpal tunnel syndrome and that I needed to stop taking notes and writing essays.

He told me to go to UVic's disability services to get a note taker. I went there with my documentation but they told me that they could not provide me with a note taker — instead, they suggested that I pay a classmate $100 per course. Like most students, I'm broke so I couldn't afford it.

What's going on? Sessional instructors are underpaid, overworked and don't have time to prepare quality courses. Students are degraded, stressed to the point of physical and mental breakdown, and taught skills that they can't use in the real world.

This brought me to perhaps the biggest question of all: Am I even being educated?

Gatto belives we have developed a society with an intellectual dependency. I couldn't help but see the parallels to my university experience. I'm constantly conforming and relying on these "experts" to tell me what to learn, how to learn and what to produce.

As a child, I dreamt that university was about critical thinking and creating new ideas, but I was wrong. How is any intelligent creativity possible when the system is geared toward intellectual regurgitation?

I imagined what I could have accomplished with the thousands of dollars and the enormous amount of time and energy I put into this system. I began to imagine an alternative university. And last spring when I went to the College of the Atlantic to celebrate my brother's graduation, I saw what this alternative system might look like.

When I watched my brother's classmates present their final projects, the results were amazing. The first student had written a book. The second student had become a youth representative to the United Nations on climate change. Numerous other students had equally impressive projects, but the last student humbled me the most.

This woman in her early 20s had worked with other students, created a business plan, collected funding, and begun construction on a new alternative university in the Middle East.

After picking my jaw up off the floor, I asked my brother about the grading system at College of the Atlantic. He casually replied that grades were optional.

Now I realize Gatto was right. The time for tinkering with the current educational system is over. We need to slam a wrench into the university machine and create a just education system that is not about intellectual servitude, but freedom of thought and academic expression.

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Dream

What is the SPP? Why is it a threat to Canadian sovereignty? What can you do about it?

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Speakers:
Peter Julian, MP (Burnaby-New Westminster), NDP trade critic

Murray Dobbin, author, activist

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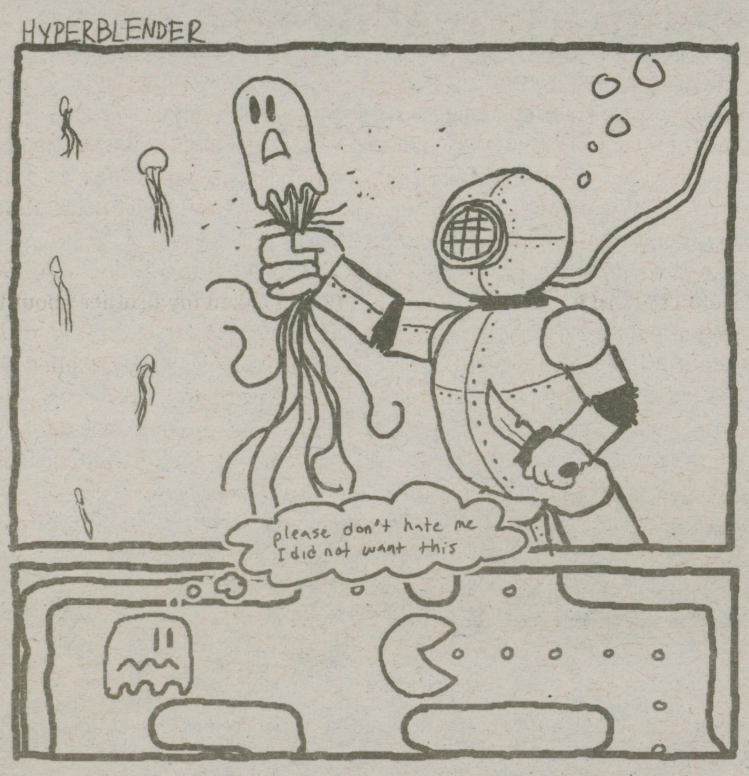
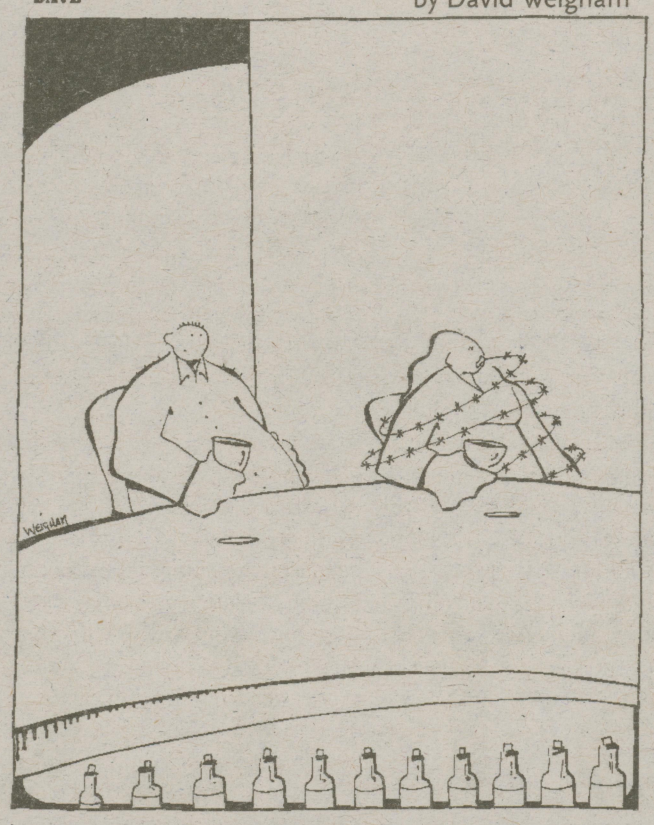


Meicom by Mary Karaplis

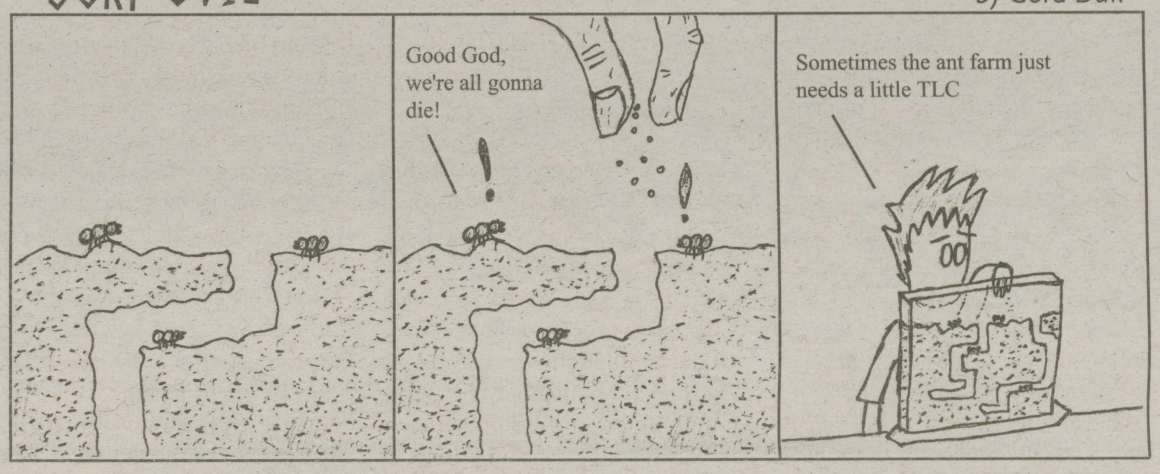
DAVE by David Weigham



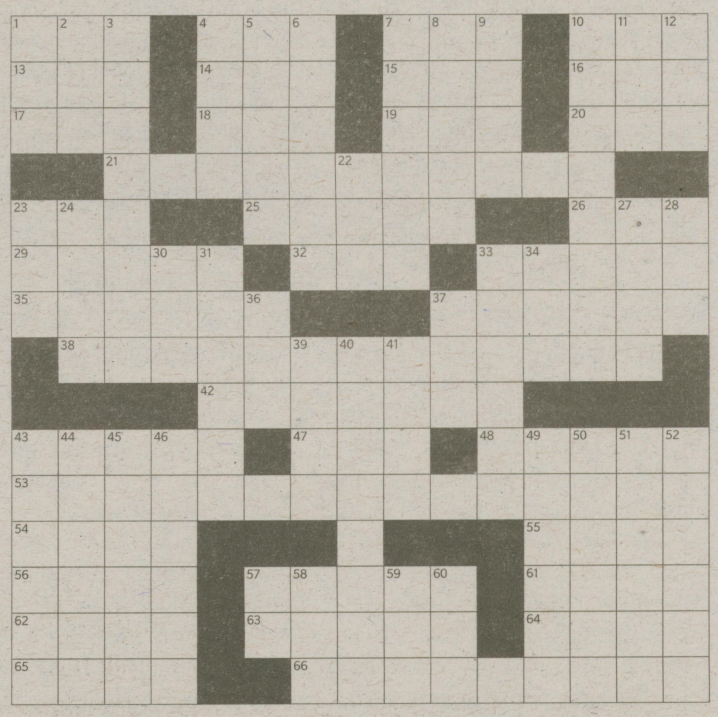
DAVE KNEW THE NICE GIRL NEXT TO HIM WAS PLAYING HARD TO GET

More Comics! by Jennifer Zhou

CORP EVIL by Gord Duff



The Martlet Crossword by Niko Skartvedt



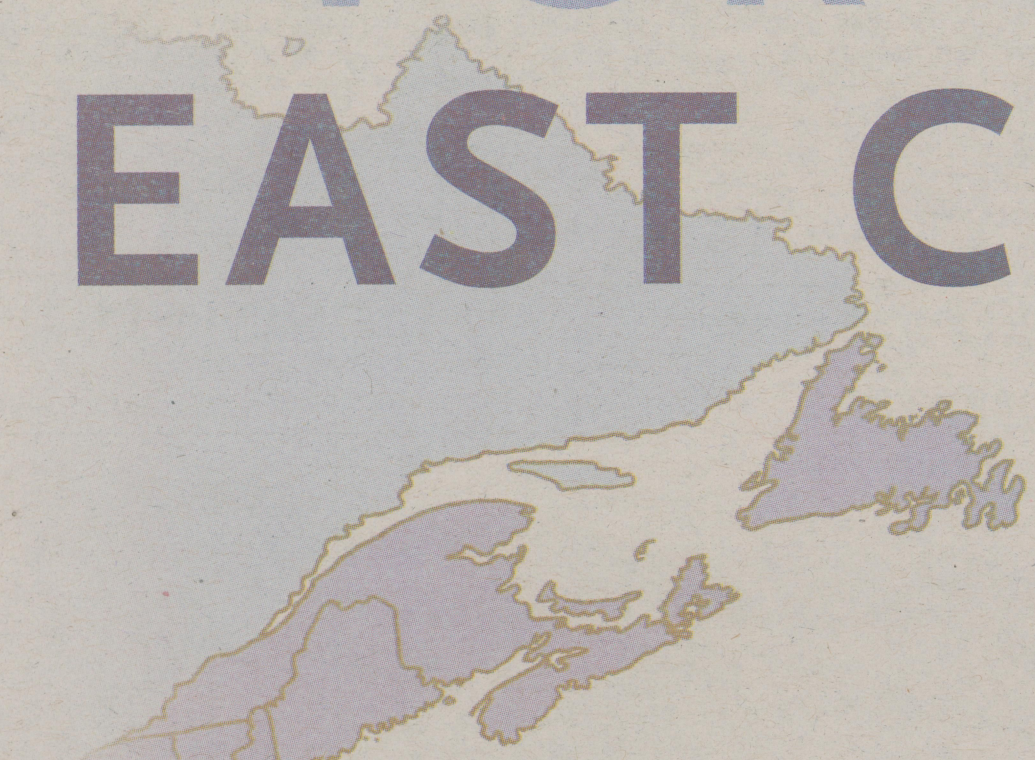
Across

1 Stomach muscles
4 This can be about nothing
7 Fifth note
10 Hasten (oneself)
13 Greek letter
14 A theatre can have this in its name
15 A Grecian urn has one
16 Not quite right or even
17 There was a nightmare on this street
18 Common Arabic name
19 Purchase
20 McGarry or Tolstoy
21 "From that moment I declared everlasting war against the species, and, more than all, against him who had formed me and sent me forth to this insupportable misery."
23 Jolly laugh
25 What these quotes are (21, 38, 53 across)
26 Type of school (abbr.)
29 Hand-me-downs from your parents
32 The Concorde was one (abbr.)
33 Responses you might get if you ask for a volunteer in a kindergarten class
35 Tibetan mountaineer
37 Skullcap
38 "Perched upon a bust of Pallas just above my chamber door -- Perched, and sat, and nothing more."
42 Ties up a boat again (sounds like a regretful feeling)
43 Runs away
47 Long ____ (past)
48 You might add water and stir
53 "I have never known birds of different species to flock together. The very concept is unimaginable. Why, if that happened, we wouldn't stand a chance!"
54 Bygone Italian monies
55 Bow signal
56 In a minute
57 Story of the fall of Troy
61 Kick into motion
62 Arthur or Harvey (Portrayed respectively by Martin Freeman and Tommy Lee Jones)
63 Cheese and basil sauce
64 This scary answer is EULN
65 These travel at mach 1+
66 Purple gems

Down

1 Devoured
2 Seen with fad. and tre.
3 Gathered, as in Demons
4 The end of Emily Carr
5 Unit of magnetic strength
6 Mr. Holland had one of these
7 Accepting, dissenting remark
8 Hypothetical force once thought to pervade all nature
9 Command to a dog
10 Message from God
11 March has multiple, as do most other months
12 Period in Japan
22 Times (abbr.)
23 This organization could help you find out about ancestors in Ontario (abbr.)
24 High-pitched laugh
27 Most recognizable sound in cinema horror
28 The times change with it (abbr.)
30 Unit of energy (c-g-s)
31 Not very thick
33 All men should strive to be one
34 Kind of record (abbr.)
36 Present indicative plural of be
37 "It was ____" (that girl over there)
39 Nurse or maid in India
40 A doctrine that mathematics can be reduced to reason
41 The dead might guard this in fantasy tales
43 Side orders
44 Gradual changes in features across the range of a species
45 Face to face (Shakespearean)
46 Lott and Reznor
49 Irish surname (similar to Ken's of the Dropkick Murphys)
50 Habeas ____
51 Magical
52 A nu metal squirrel might collect these
57 Type of address
58 Meadow
59 Swallowed
60 Speck

CASCADIA FOR THE EAST COAST



A proposed free-trade zone on the other end of the country is creating a skirmish

DREW NELLES, THE MCGILL DAILY

HALIFAX (CUP) — A makeshift smoke bomb flies through the air, hurled anonymously from a crowd of black-clad protesters. It bursts at the feet of a line of nervous police officers.

As smoke billows, the "Black Bloc," about 75 strong, shifts uneasily before suddenly running in the opposite direction, away from the building guarded by police. Nearby, a much larger crowd of protesters looks on as the Black Bloc scrambles. There are a few desperate cries: "Where are we going?"

Just a few minutes later and a short distance away, the demonstrators clash with police. It's a queasy, violent scene: paint and light bulbs are met with pepper spray, Tasers, billy clubs and multiple arrests.

As protesters disperse and run, the battle moves north for a showdown. Things end quickly after another tussle, and the ground is littered with glass and grim detainees.

Police use Tasers on a protester already in handcuffs. Another young man lies on the ground, stunned by a Taser into unconsciousness. Police huddle around him, chuckling and cracking jokes. When paramedics arrive, one turns to a cop and asks, apparently incredulous, "What were you thinking?"

The man on the ground regains consciousness. "Tell them to go away," he croaks, referring to the officers.

Later, about 100 people gather outside the building where the clashes began. One demonstrator, dressed ludicrously in purple goggles, a Hawaiian lei necklace and a garish skirt, is shoved down the concrete steps by a police officer. The demonstrator begins running but is tackled by an undercover cop, dragged behind police lines, and arrested.

"You didn't even give me a chance to remove myself from the premises!" he yells. As other protesters approach, an officer swings his billy club. "Who wants to cross the line?" he growls.

This was not the Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) meeting at Montebello, Que., or the G8 summit in Heiligendamm, Germany, the sites of this summer's most high-profile global-justice protests.

It was June 15 in Halifax, and the issue that so enraged protesters was a free-trade zone you've never heard of.

Welcome to Atlantica

"Atlantica" seems a rather fabulous name for something as unsexy as a trade initiative, but the tale of how it came to the activist community's attention is nearly as mythic.

As the rumour goes, in late 2005 a single East Coast activist discovered a proposal online that described Atlantica, and began alerting friends and allies. Though the pressure of organizing against the initiative would eventually cause the activist to suffer a nervous breakdown, from these humble beginnings blossomed a vibrant anti-Atlantica movement.

This movement descended on Halifax in June for a few days of anti-Atlantica actions — part of, as one activist told the crowd on June 15, a "summer of resistance" that included the Montebello protests and the aboriginal National Day of Action.

The events coincided with a conference on Atlantica hosted by the Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce, one of the free-trade zone's architects, and attended by prominent businesspeople and politicians including then-Minister of Foreign Affairs Peter MacKay and Nova Scotia Premier Rodney Macdonald.

A local arts centre functioned as the weekend's hub of anti-Atlantica activity; Food Not Bombs Halifax distributed free meals; workshops were conducted and rallies organized. The sleepy college-town capital of Nova Scotia was briefly transformed.

"[Atlantica] is an invisible agenda that nobody has really known about up to this point," said JD Price, a spokesperson for Alliance Against Atlantica, the umbrella group that organized the actions in June. "The overarching problem is the fact that there's no transparency, there's no participation with civil society."

If you don't know what Atlantica is, take comfort that neither its defenders nor its detractors seem entirely certain.

"Atlantica is not a proposal for political union of the provinces and states in the region, so there is no referendum to vote down, no constitutional convention to refuse to hold," Charles Cirtwill, acting president of a conservative think tank called the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (AIMS), wrote in an op-ed this summer. "Atlantica is not even a call for a free trade zone ... Atlantica is a region bound together by a common history, a common culture, a common economy and common challenges. No premier can, by the stroke of a pen or any other action, make that common connection disappear. Atlantica exists whether we want it to or not."

A few things, however, are clear. Atlantica is officially known as Atlantica: the International Northeast Economic Region. It's the brainchild of the Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce and AIMS. It's backed by the Harper government, the Maritime governments, and the East Coast's most powerful corporations — including the notorious Irving family, which owns most newspapers in Atlantic Canada.

It would encompass what is generally described as the "Atlantic Northeast": in Canada, this would include New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec south of the St. Lawrence, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island; in the U.S., upstate New York, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine.

Atlantica involves traditional free-trade proposals like eliminated tariffs, but in many ways it goes beyond this: AIMS and the Chambers of Commerce are explicitly interested in the "harmonization of regulations" between all involved areas, and massive infrastructure projects to facilitate trade. Like the SPP, Atlantica is vague and oblique, described more as a process than a

The Confederation Bridge, which connects Prince Edward Island with New Bruns and the East Coast of the United States, but many critics are worried about the fo

treaty.

"You can't say you're against Atlantica until we know what it is at this point, because it's morphed and modified," said Cliff White of the Atlantic Canada branch of the Council of Canadians, an advocacy group opposed to the free-trade project. "To the extent that there's a national effort to harmonize our regulations with the United States and to more closely integrate their economies, that's still going on. And I think Atlantica is part of that push."

Deep integration

This is what's called "deep integration," a wider process of dismantling trade barriers and harmonizing regulations of which Atlantica is just one part. As more people start paying attention to the concept, it's become a greater point of contention, with government and industry on one side and citizens' groups and social movements on the other.

The Council of Canadians, for example, has zeroed in on deep integration, rallying citizen opposition against the SPP at the Montebello protests and participating in the anti-Atlantica events in Halifax.

The SPP is the most high-profile example of deep integration, but Atlantica is also a piece of the puzzle.

"On the U.S. side of the border, the [Atlantica] concept has attracted little attention outside the corporate community," read a Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) report published in February. "But Atlantica fits comfortably within the philosophy of the Security and Prosperity Partnership, which is championed by the Bush administration and United States Trade Representative. Consequently, Atlantica should be understood as part of a broader drive towards fuller economic integration and political assimilation within the continent."

Buzz terms like "deep integration" and projects such as Atlantica are only the latest instances of neoliberalism's meteoric rise in North America. Beginning in earnest in Canada during the late 1980s with Conservative Prime Minister Brian Mulroney — the so-called "father of free trade" — neoliberalism's ascent was cemented by the Liberal government's deep cuts to social spending during the '90s.

Today, its influence is obvious everywhere in the country, from the Campbell government's rash of welfare cuts and asset sales in British Columbia to the Quebec government's recent defreeze of tuition.

There are a number of formal free trade agreements already in the Western Hemisphere: the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement, as well as a number of bilateral agreements between individual countries.

AIMS is fond of linking Atlantica to global economic trends and similar projects throughout North America, and Atlantica's detractors point to it as one of many neoliberal projects looming on the horizon.

An ongoing West Coast initiative called Cascadia is similar in its vaguely proposed free-trade zone, while Atlantica is often invoked in the same breath as the SPP. But White argued that the SPP, for all its opaqueness, is still more definite than Atlantica.

"The SPP has a huge number of working groups who are actually working on specific elements of the SPP proposal. Some of those things have actually been put in place," White said. "If you look at Atlantica, I have yet to see anything concrete. Anything that happens, they say, 'This is part of Atlantica.' It's evolved into facilitating some of those elements of trade and the relationship between this area and the Northern states that have always been there. It's just an enhancement of what's always been going on."

A distressed public

As free-trade deals tend to do, Atlantica has generated enough concern to unite a broad cross-section of left-wing activists and concerned citizens.

Union organizers, environmentalists, parents and children, Canadian nationalists, social democrats, students and militant anarchists all gathered in Halifax this summer to voice their dissent.

The Maritimes' troubled economy is the driving force behind both sides of the Atlantica debate. One of Canada's poorest regions, Atlantic Canada's relatively low wages and high unemployment have resulted in lower average incomes and pushed Maritime residents to search for jobs in the booming economy of the West.

Atlantica's supporters argue that the trade initiative will create jobs and promote growth, while its opponents fear depressed wages and unsustainable development.

Atlantica's critics argue that while AIMS cloaks its advocacy of the free-trade initiative in the language of job creation and economic revitalization, the think tank's goals are suspect.

One of the main points of friction is AIMS's description of minimum-wage legislation, unionization and public services as "public policy distress factors." Cirtwill denies that AIMS described the minimum wage and unionization in this way. When told it says so on AIMS's own web site, Cirtwill replied, "No, it doesn't say that on the web site."

But it does. A section of Atlantica.org called "How poor quality public policy holds Atlantica back" looks at five Atlantica factors in the AINER area: the size of government relative to the economy, amount of government employment, government revenue from its own sources, minimum-wage legislation and union density. The section argues that, with the exception of New Hampshire, all five factors qualify as "policy distress factors" in the Atlantica area because they are "less competitive" than the policies in higher-growth areas of Canada and the United States.

Cirtwill argued in favour of a market-determined minimum wage.

"If there's no one working, there's no one to be members of the union," he said. "If you end up with everyone sitting on the sidelines with a $15 minimum wage and no jobs, the unions aren't going to have money."

It's a familiar refrain in neo-liberal economic theory, and one that has attracted the ire of Atlantica's critics. The CCPA report states, "This thinly-disguised attack on working people, public services, social programs and democratic decision-making is very revealing about what underlies the Atlantica agenda."

Atlantica would also see massive infrastructure changes in Eastern Canada — specifically, the establishment of the Halifax harbour as a major trade conduit between Asia and the Eastern United States. AIMS points out that trade between Asia and the United States keeps rising, straining the capacity of North America's western ports.

The use of so-called post-Panamax vessels — ships too large to fit through the Panama Canal — has also been on the rise since 1995. The Halifax port is deep enough to accommodate Panamax and post-Panamax ships, and is the closest major North American port for Asian ships traveling via the Suez Canal — an attractive argument for AIMS and the Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce.

Tied to the revitalization of the Halifax port would be the construction of new highways to accommodate transport trucks ferrying goods from the Maritimes to the Eastern United States. Additionally, the loosening of transport regulations to allow increased use of massive "truck trains" — vehicles with more than one trailer per tractor.

The bigger the truck, Atlantica proponents seem to think, the bigger the buck. But for opponents of the initiative, this would entail more long-distance trade and fossil fuel consumption in the face of the looming threats of climate change.

"[The U.S. and Asian] economies are engaged in a trading relationship that's socially, environmentally, and economically unsustainable," Brendan Haley of Halifax's Ecology Action Centre told the crowd on June 15.

"The vision of a few business leaders is to take the goods produced halfway around the world and ship them to another country. Nova Scotia becomes a super-highway for the Wal-Marts of the world. Our highest endeavour is to become a middleman."

A dark future

The protests this summer did not end well. By the end of the clashes, 21 people had been arrested, including at least two who were not involved in the demonstration.

The following evening, a "victory celebration" house party was held in Halifax to raise money for legal costs. Keg beer and vegan burritos sold for $2 apiece, and a local punk band tore through songs with names like "Thrash Atlantica to Fucking Death."

A few people joked about how the prisoners, some of whom abstained from all forms of drugs and alcohol, would feel about alcohol sales covering their defence fees. A more pressing question, as some present pointed out, was why the party was billed as a victory celebration when so many people were in jail.

Atlantica is far from thrashed. Following the June 15 demonstration, paint splattered the streets, a bank window was broken and the mainstream media decried the protest as violent. But the AIMS conference went off without a hitch.

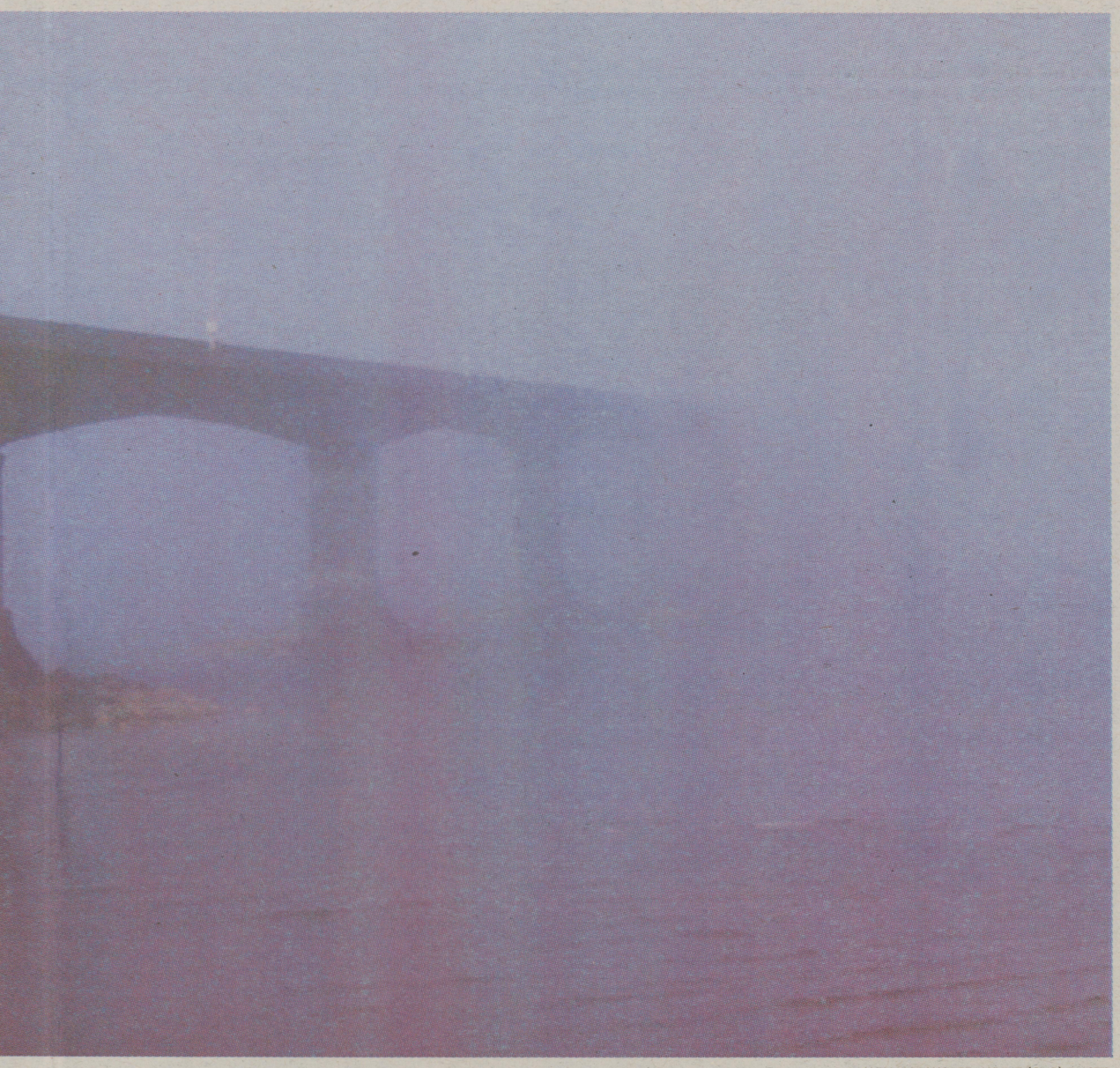
In fact, though Atlantica had largely flown beneath the radar prior to the demonstration, that week the Canadian government announced $588,000 in support of the Atlantica Council, which will promote the nascent trade area.

Just what Atlantica is may be unclear, but its progress is not. In addition to the announcement of the federal government's support of the Atlantica Council, American businessman Jonathan Daniels, chair of the Eastern Maine Development Corporation, was appointed as chair and patron director of the Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce around the same time. About a month later, the Chambers of Commerce created a Vice-President Atlantica position, hiring entrepreneur Brent Samson.

Recently, the Harper government and the four Maritime provinces announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on the development of the Atlantic Gateway, a key component of Atlantica. On Oct. 5, the federal government released a 144-page report claiming that the Atlantic Gateway would create 61,000 jobs in Atlantic Canada by 2025 and result in $3.4-billion in new GDP.

Put in these enticing terms, Atlantica seems a difficult prospect to turn down in such a troubled region. But the question that hangs so uncomfortably in the air is just who will benefit from this supposed explosion in growth, and what kinds of wages will accompany these 61,000 jobs.

"Just in Halifax, just in this region here, there are 30,000 people that are a paycheque away from being out on the streets," Price said. "You just have to do the math to understand what's going to happen when minimum wage is brought down, when people are working two jobs, when working poor are struggling to make ends meet as it is."



WILLIAM WOLFE=WYLIE (CUP) PHOTO

w Brunswick, is an Atlantic Canadian landmark. Atlantica may help bridge connections between the Atlantic provinces ut the foggy implications of increased free trade.

Noises louder than before

Hart Shouldice

In the midst of an extended break from live performances to record a new album, local progressive jazz band Noises From the Toolshed emerged from hibernation at Steamers Pub on Oct. 27.

The band showed no signs of rust as it cruised with musical eloquence through a 90-minute set that balanced spot-on technical proficiency with inspiring musical lift-offs, throwing in a healthy dose of pop-friendly hooks for good measure.

The four-piece band — Stephen Franke on guitar, Chris Van Sickle on keys, Alex MacCuaig on bass and Allan Cameron on drums — was bolstered by the addition of a baritone saxophone player for most of the show, adding texture to the sonic low end and making for a fuller sound. The sax player gave a sense of completeness the four-piece hasn't always offered in the past.

As each song progressed, the lines between the structured components and the alternating solos taken by the players were repeatedly blurred. Time and again, the band members would simultaneously but delicately pour their musical energy through a collective funnel to have it gathered by a soloist who would seamlessly take the musical baton and run with it, only to have as smooth a transition back to the core of the song at solo's end. Especially strong in this regard was the salsa-infused instrumental "Half Moon Bay," as well as some of the fresh material being prepared for the new album.

The quarterback of these transitions and standout musician on the stage was the bandleader himself. The love that Stephen Franke made to his hollow-body Paul Reid Smith was incendiary and furious, yet deliberate and restrained. Franke made every note count, when playing rhythm behind his bandmates and stepping up to take solos of his own. It takes a confident musician to walk as purposefully as he does along the border delineating mature technical mastery and self-indulgent wanksmanship while remaining on the right side of the fence.

This balance was perhaps best illustrated on one of the evening's three cover tunes, "Tumbleweed Tea," originally performed by Toronto's Kevin Breit & The Sisters Euclid. The band attacked the blazing, country-infused groove from all sides, diving headfirst into the song's rapid time signature without getting carried away.

In their hometown of Toronto, Breit and company packed in the crowds every Monday night for their resident gig at the fabled Orbit Room. But at Steamers, Noises From the Toolshed's crowd was thin by the show's end. It's a shame that Victoria can't show the same love on a seasonal — let alone weekly — basis to its jazz bands.

ASK MISS MARTLET

Friends really can last forever

Danielle Pope

Dear Miss Martlet:

My best friend of 16 years is attending a university far away. I miss her so much, and it's hard now because our lives are on such different tracks. We have stayed in contact, but sometimes I feel like we aren't best friends anymore, and it makes me jealous to hear that she's having fun with other people. How do I let her know that I really care about her and want to keep our friendship alive?

- Friend Minus Best

Dear Friend:

The answer sounds simple: just tell her. But as they say, actions scream when words can only mumble.

We've all had friendships that come and go, maybe even a few childhood chums that still show up to family gatherings. But before you try to re-fit your relationship, start by patting yourself on the back — 16 years is nothing to sneeze at. You and your best friend have been doing something right, and the good news is that history is on your side.

What you're going through now is pretty common according to June Saracuse, a counsellor at UVic's Counselling Services and staff coordinator of the peer helping program. Saracuse says university is when long-time pals start to diverge while navigating their own paths. That doesn't mean it's time to close the door on this friendship — you just have to work a little harder to keep it open.

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

"It's really important to let the people we care about know that," said Saracuse. "Sharing your daily life is one of the best ways to do this."

It might sound weird, but by talking with your friend about everything from that professor who puts you to sleep, to what you had for dinner and the colour you're thinking of dying your hair, you aren't just rambling — you're including her in your life. If high phone bills are a problem, try both keeping journals for a few weeks, then mail them to each other (write, then return again).

No doubt when you are together it feels like you've never been apart. One of the best ways to invigorate your companionship is to make a point of remembering special occasions with letters, gifts and cards.

"Pick out a fall-themed card, then write inside, 'Remembering that time we played in the leaves at your dad's house,'" said Saracuse. "Just the fact you remembered can bring a laugh, and that will do wonders."

You might not always have time, but distance doesn't have to mean absence. Send each other recipes you've discovered and know the other will like (including how you made it the *perfect* peanut butter cookie). E-mail quizzes to each other to keep up on favourites (is chartreuse still her new black?), and don't forget online games like Facebook's Scrabulous for some fun on the side. Have a long-distance get-together by renting the same movie one night then watching it with some favourite snacks. Chat afterwards about why you both loved Brad, but couldn't stand Angie.

It can be motivational to think about when you'll see each other next, but try not to dwell on the future. A better tactic might be to play a game of 20 Things We Should Do (Or Do Again) Next Time We're Together. Start a list, then mail it to your friend for her to complete. You'll evoke some good-time memories as well as scoring a plan.

Saracuse said it's important to have someone close by to talk with, so while best friends can stay bests, don't underestimate the value of acquaintances — and try to understand your friend needs a few of those too. Honesty can go far here, but if you aren't sure whether to confess your jealousy or tuck that little green monster under a rug, take Saracuse's suggestion and focus on what the two of you do have together: 16 years of history that no one can erase and can only be added to.

Got a problem, question or concern? Let Miss Martlet do the investigating for you. Send your queries to missmartlet@martlet.ca.

Life returns to Beacon Hill sanctuary

The new Artist First program is turning Victoria into a walking (or flying) art gallery

Deborah Daudin

In August 1981, 48 birds in the Beacon Hill Park aviary were slaughtered during a weekend attack. Their bodies were found on a Monday morning strewn in their cages.

After some 50 years in operation and several random acts of vandalism, the aviary was permanently closed in 1991. Now, for 13 weeks this fall the aviary will come alive again to house Still in the Aviary, one of six innovative public art displays hitting the streets of Victoria.

Artist First is a project put on by the City of Victoria that provides the opportunity for local artists to create short-term interactive works that engage the public.

Victoria artist Christine Clark will be installing 48 birds crafted out of papier mâché in the park's aviary over a period of six weeks. Then, in the same way that the birds arrived — "fluttering to pause" — they will abandon the aviary as they are removed during the second period of the installation project. Her idea is to make the aviary the scene of a continually changing sculptural tableau.

DEBORAH DAUDIN PHOTO

Christine Clark poses with one of the 48 birds she created for her Still in the Aviary art show.

"I think that the aviary is symbolic of our larger world," said Clark, who lives on an acre of forested land and sees birds every day. "The birds, whether they live in the aviary or outside of the aviary, are our captives. They have no way to escape the destruction of nature."

Clark graduated with a fine arts diploma from the Victoria College of Art. Her greatest influence was her sculpture teacher, Wendy Welch, who taught her students to take non-permanent materials as serious building supplies for sculpture.

"After a few years of assimilating everything I learned while at art college, I've realized that Wendy's ideas were really very influential because they helped me to relax and accept my own ideas about art and art making," said Clark.

The jury for the Artist First program looked at unique and interactive qualities of the artists' original work, as well as their ability to stage the art piece to animate a public space for six weeks to 12 months.

Clark believes that her collaboration with the Beacon Hill Park authorities has been positive one. "Everyone has been very helpful and excited and encouraging," she said.

Personal experiences led the artist to the theme of birds and the aviary. "Birds are magical and mysterious," said Clark. "They live with us only if we know how to live with them. My papier mâché is homage to the birds that I personally know."

Still in the Aviary can be viewed from now until Jan. 15 at the Beacon Hill Park aviary.

His look might shock, but Nardwuar can charm

Who: Nardwuar (The Human Serviette)
When: Sat., Nov. 3 @ 7.30 p.m.
Where: Jamaican Jerkhouse
How Much: $7 (all ages)

Alex Grant

He is a shock to your system and ears, a lightning bolt of overwhelming enthusiasm and a fury of unbridled passion — and he makes no apologies for it. Canada's own Nardwuar the Human Serviette has taken the music and media world by storm and is unleashing even more Nard-spirit this week.

Beginning Nov. 1, Nardwuar is celebrating his 20th anniversary on UBC's CiTR Friday show with a 20-hour marathon, ending Nov. 2. Following this nearly day-long marathon, he will play one of his high-impact shows with his band the Evaporators in UBC's SUB Ballroom at exactly 7:19 p.m. The next day he'll jaunt across the Strait to Victoria to perform with local bands Final Verdict and Vincat.

Then, on Nov. 4, there will be a MuchMusic special of the Human Serviette's favourite interviews, starting at 8 p.m. The Nard will take a day's breather, and then on Nov. 6 there will be the double-release of the Evaporator's latest CD, *Gassy Jack and Other Tales* and Nardwuar's 5.5-hour-long DVD *Welcome to my Castle*, filled with his infamous interviews.

How does he find all this energy?

"I still feel like it's the first day I'm doing the radio show. There's so much to do, so many people to interview ... everything's so brand new," said Nardwuar. "I could see myself in an old folks' home with a tape-deck. I just love doing it ... there's no way out. I stepped in the door and there's no turning back."

It started more than 20 years ago at Hillside Secondary in West Vancouver, where the Evaporators were born. Aside from Nardwuar as lead singer, this "fun rocking" band is now filled out with his long-time friend Scott Livingstone on drums, John Collins of the New Pornographers on bass, David Carswell on guitar and multi-instrumentalist Stephen Hamm of legendary band Slow. Their infectious songs put a smile on your face while filling your head with historical facts. *Gassy Jack and Other Tales*, for instance, is named after Gassy Jack Baton, an early pioneer of Vancouver (incidentally, Nardwuar's mother also wrote a book on Gassy Jack).

"We're singing about B.C. life ... it's history rock," Nardwuar explained. "We want the Evaporators to perk your interest on history."

The Evaporators' music has been dubbed as a cross between Iggy Pop and Richard Simmons, a comparison Nardwuar loves.

"The punk rocker with the exercise guy ... Richard Simmons is an idol of mine," he said.

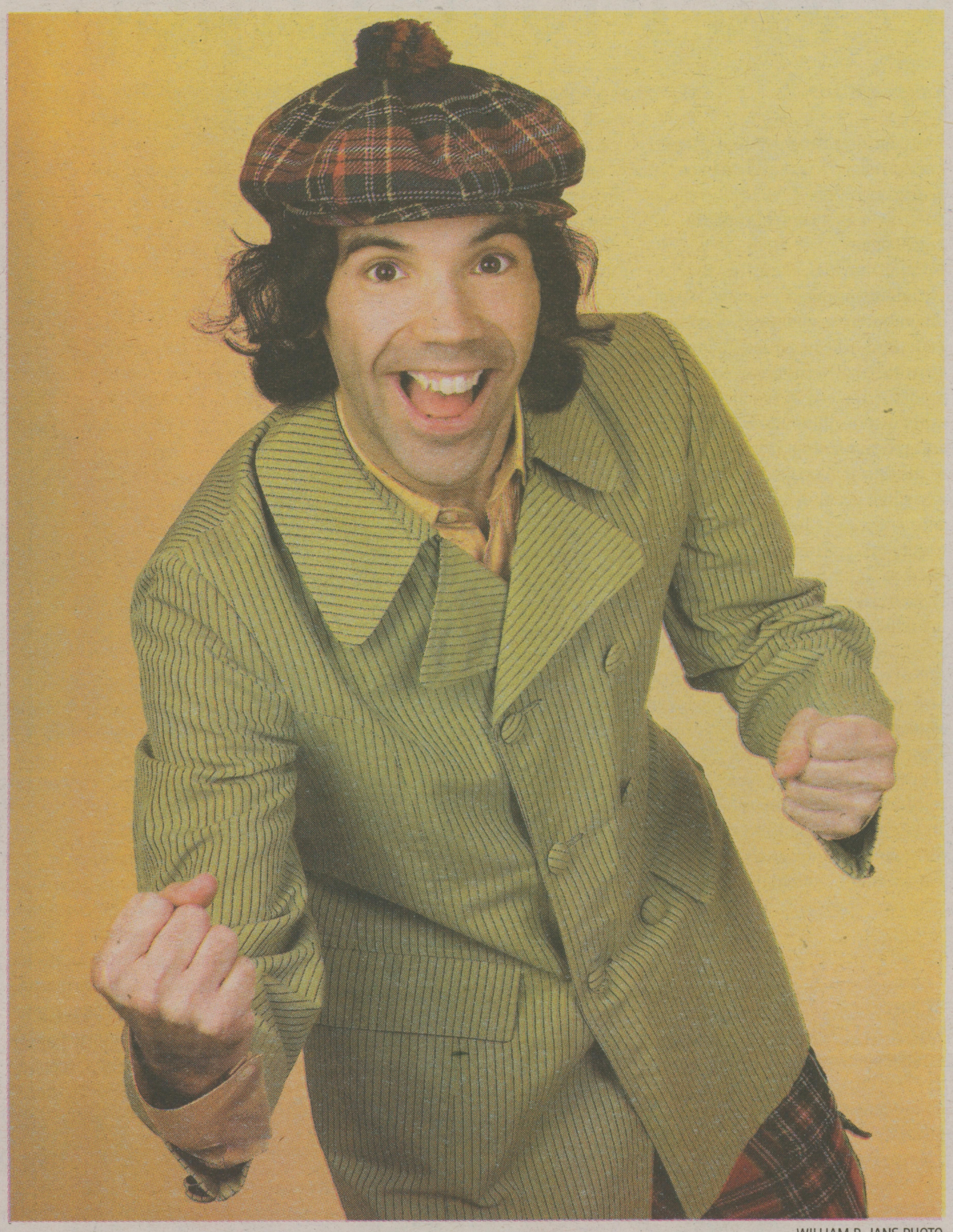
Nardwuar's interviews are as high-energy and entertaining as his music. Some fine examples are his many interviews with Snoop Doggy Dogg. They feed off of each other; both are obsessed with rock/rap history. Snoop Dogg also likes "sharing" with Nardwuar. Essentially, Snoop Dogg collects items Nardwuar has with him and promises to "give them back" the next time Nardwuar comes to his house.

Courtney Love and Nardwuar have had a rocky relationship as well. Love hated Nardwuar when they first met, but she came around to him eventually. She ended up getting him an interview with her then-husband Kurt Cobain by claiming he was her cousin. Now, she asks for him when she comes to Vancouver.

Why is it then that so many celebrities seem revolted by him at first, and bond with him over time?

"If you stay with people long enough, eventually they'll come around and be your friends," said Nardwuar. "They realize I'm just trying to have fun, that I use the same formula for everyone."

His interviewing style has often been called "guerrilla interviewing." He is uncompromising and relentless, which is perfectly exemplified in his questioning of Jean Chretien. Upon being questioned by Nardwuar about the APEC protests, Jean Chretien responded with his now-famous quote, "For me, pepper, I put it on my plate."



WILLIAM R. JANS PHOTO

Nardwuar shows off a little of his unique style — one that compliments his happy persona.

Dubbed a "national treasure" by Michael Moore, Nardwuar has truly distinguished himself as a genuinely passionate advocate for underground and obscure music, a gifted interviewer able to prompt strong reactions from celebrities, and a uniquely vibrant personality.

As our dear Human Serviette would put it, "Keep on rawkin' in the free world, and doot doola doot doo..."

ON CAMPUS

UVic Idol competitors step it up

Kailey Willetts

If you like gyrating pelvises and air guitar, Felicita's is the place to be on Thursday nights. UVic Idol is back and this year's contestants are going all out.

Round two kicked off Oct. 18 with 24 candidates, narrowed down from the initial 36 candidates. Round two lasts four weeks with six contestants each performing two songs per night. Three out of the six contestants will be eliminated each night and the remaining 12 will move on to the final at Vertigo on Nov. 30.

The competition is hosted by last year's winner, Chelsea Rose. Each night, six contestants go before three judges and duke it out karaoke style. Then, at the end, they have to stand on stage and listen to what the judges have to say.

Two of the judges rotate weekly — there is always one from the UVic Students' Society board and one from Vancouver Island Brewery, one of the event's sponsors. Last week they were Jeff Zamluk from the brewery and Rebecca Laing from the UVSS. Then there's Jonny Morris, who has been judging UVic Idol for the past three years and is considered the event's Simon Cowell.

"Simon's horrible," said Morris when asked about his nickname. "Because of my British-ness they've given me that persona."

While it's true Morris may not be the arrogant dream crusher we see on American Idol, he does speak the truth from the judges' booth. Zamluk behaved in a much more Cowell-esque fashion, advising one contestant to head down to the Salsa Palace and take some dance lessons.

Morris estimated that judges have seen four or five contestants in round one with "Idol potential."

Rose said every year there's one person who makes you think, "That person has got it in the bag," but its more competitive this year.

Watching the start of round two, it seems that many of the contestants are doing that. Madeline Odowichuck danced in a little black dress with red fishnets and a scarf singing "All That Jazz." Andy Liu pulled out his ponytail to run his fingers sexily through his hair during a rendition of "I Need to Know."

"Andy Liu is the sex," said candidate Michael Nussbacher.

LINLEY FAULKNER PHOTO

Emily Kersey sings at UVic Idol, held on Thursdays at Felicita's.

The lady who stole the show, vocally at least, was Danielle Goodwin. Not only did she win the whose-friends-can-make-the-loudest-drunken-comments segment of the night, but her performance of "Black Velvet" was, according to Zamluk, "perfect all the way through" and Morris told her that "Idol potential is standing on the stage right now."

Rose said UVic Idol was a lot of fun, despite the fact she tried to back out three times. A group of her friends did the first round of competitions together, so they always had a good time not only performing but cheering each other on.

"I was so mad that I won," she said, saying how she hates competition. Someone had to win, though, and if you watch her perform during the karaoke intermission it's easy to understand why it was her.

The best part of UVic Idol Thursdays may be the karaoke during intermission and after the performances. If you're especially lucky, the infamous Kevin will be there performing *Tenacious D's* "Fuck Her Gently." By the end of the night, there are usually a few people who've had enough to drink to sing some hilariously awful karaoke. Think of an energetic but very off-key version of Smash Mouth's "All Star," not to mention some campfire repeat-after-me Chainsaw Jack songs.

This year's Idol will receive $1,000 cash and $500 in gift certificates to Travel Cuts. The first runner-up wins two round-trip tickets to any Western Canadian destination WestJet flies to, and the second runner-up receives a $50 SUB card. Last year's winner is using her prize money to take a Mexican Cruise in April.

UVic Idol, now in its fourth season, runs every Thursday night at Felicita's, starting at around 9 p.m. Admission is $2 and comes with a ballot to choose your idol.

Tickets for the final will be $5.

Beware of date rape drug

Samantha Garofalo

GHB, or the date rape drug, has been gaining popularity as a recreational drug. It's inexpensive and is easily made at home.

Depending on the ratio of ingredients some GHB can have increased effects with smaller doses. Being one of the most hazardous and easily accessible drugs on the streets today, GHB users are often unaware of its immediate lethal risks.

Here's what you should know.

The drug

GHB, or gamma hydroxybutrate, is a nervous system depressant and powerful sedative.

The drug is made from gamma butyrolactone combined with butanediol tetramethylene — essentially floor stripper mixed with drain cleaner. When the two products are ingested, GHB is produced inside the body.

Normally the drug is an odourless, colorless liquid, with a slightly salty taste. GHB is generally used in its liquid form, though it is sometimes found in capsules, tablet or powder form.

The effect

In small doses GHB can induce hallucinations, feelings of relaxation, heightened sexual awareness and euphoria. A stronger dose can cause a number of symptoms, including unconsciousness and death.

The drug takes effect within 15 to 20 minutes and can last up to several hours. When GHB is combined with alcohol or marijuana, it becomes especially dangerous, as the combination of the two depressants may lead to an overdose or death.

GHB symptoms

- Slurred speech
- Difficulty walking
- Dizziness or confusion
- Nausea or vomiting
- Weakness
- Hallucinations
- Unconsciousness
- Amnesia
- Seizures
- Slowed heart rate
- Slowed breathing
- Coma
- Death

The source

This drug is inexpensive on the street and can easily be made at home with Internet recipes.

GHB is often made incorrectly. There is no quality control in producing the drug and intensities can vary between suppliers.

It's easy to ingest a dangerous dose of GHB. A small dose may be an overdose, or it may not be enough to cause effect.

The overdose

Anyone rendered unconscious from GHB enters a coma or vegetative state. Be aware that this person has no gag reflex and should be turned to rest on their side, so as not to choke on their tongue or vomit. Pay close attention to their breathing and heart rate, as GHB can shut down the respiratory system.

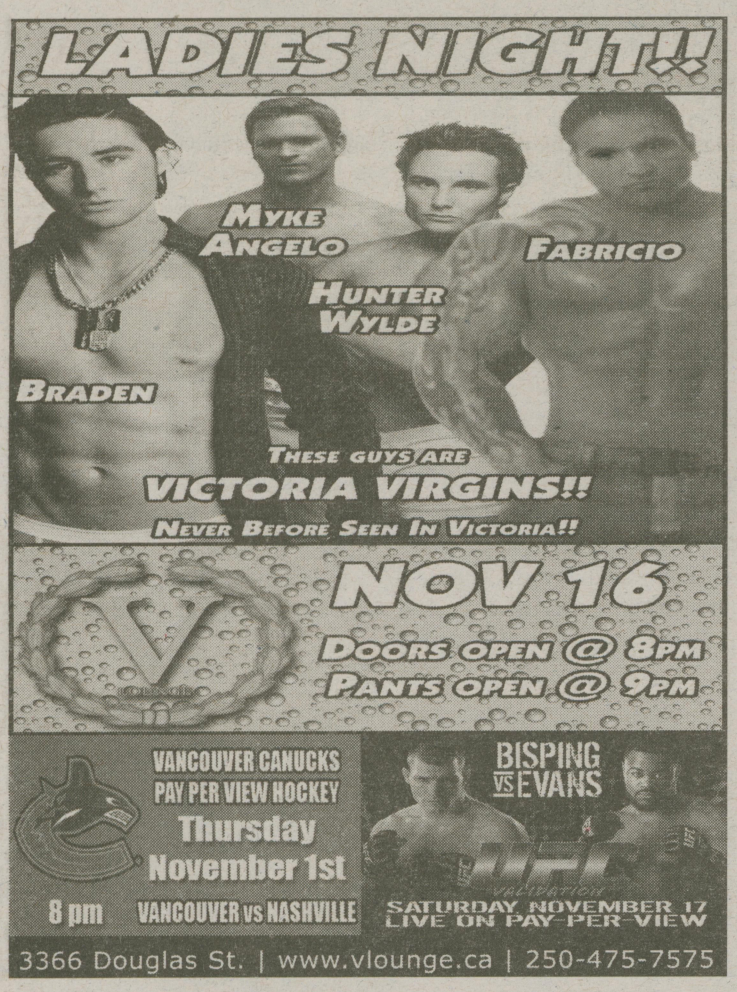
Immediately call an ambulance. Allowing the person to sleep it off may strengthen the coma or cause death.

Avoidance

Not everybody takes GHB by choice. It is sometimes slipped into drinks at bars or parties.

To prevent grave harm to you and your friends, watch your drink and place a hand over your glass.

Be aware and watchful for GHB symptoms. Call an ambulance if you believe your friend is demonstrating symptoms.



Gender cookbook to challenge roles

Samantha Magnus

On your first day when the doctor shouted, "It's a boy!" or "It's a girl!" did you agree? Did you scream?

Fourth-year writing major Nisa Malli is co-authoring *My Gender Cookbook*, which challenges readers to rethink gender.

Malli is cupcake pretty. Her two nose rings and mohawk don't shout out female. But Malli, 21, looks very femme.

"I wear dresses and heels and skirts and elbow-length gloves and crinolines," she said behind blinking dark lashes. "I do it quite consciously and I'm aware of how that's fitting into gender roles and how it's averting gender roles."

In *My Gender Workbook* Kate Borstein wrote: "Anything that categorizes people is gender, whether it's appearances or mannerisms, biology or psychology, hormones, roles, genitals." Malli's project tacks food onto that list.

SAM VANSCHIE PHOTO

Nisa Malli is meticulous and fancy with her gender identity and cooking style.

My Gender Cookbook promises to be unlike any other cookbook. The recipes inside will be coupled with gender-themed personal essays from writers, spanning a smorgasbord of ideas about how gender affects one of our most important activities: eating.

"Along with water and shelter, [food] is the most important thing in the world," Dr. Christine St. Peter wrote in an e-mail. Peter teaches Women, Food and Culture at UVic.

There's no doubt gender affects our food choices. "The 1950s stereotype example of the housewife who is in the kitchen making casserole and her husband who is making steak on the barbecue is still in our cultural visual memory," said Malli.

She pointed out that while some books address gender and cooking, they've never used recipes to deconstruct gender.

"Gender has to do with how you visually represent your sex," explained Malli. "Sex is what's between your legs — gender is what's between your ears."

My Gender Cookbook started between the ears of Malli's co-author Chiara Klaiman. Klaiman is an anthropology and sexual diversity major at McGill, where she advocated gender-identity acceptance as co-administrator of Queer McGill — a support service for lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender students.

"[Gender] identity is personal; it's what we feel our gender to be at any given moment," wrote Borstein, who spoke during Pride Week 2005 at the invitation of Queer McGill. She encouraged audience members to seek a personal way to understand gender.

Klaiman explored gender identity through her stomach. She thought an anthology about gender and cooking in cookbook format would do the trick.

"[Klaiman] is a foodie," said Malli. "She's an amazing chef."

Malli was able to offer the expertise she gained from reviewing book proposals for Montreal-based Lobster Press and writing her own proposals in creative non-fiction courses at UVic. She was quick to snap at Klaiman's idea, and got the ball of her pen rolling on *My Gender Cookbook*. The title credits Borstein's book as the anthology's inspiration.

The call for submissions for the book is ringing out in pride societies, writers' forums and university writing, sexuality and gender studies departments across the country.

"We're asking people to look at how their gender identity parallels their cooking style," said Malli. "We are hoping for a thorough representation of the sexuality spectrum."

The query reads, "Gender identity, like a good recipe, is a combination of ingredients."

Potential authors are already salivating. Malli says the response so far has been "incredibly gung-ho."

"There are as many good reasons for having or choosing a gendered identity as there are people," wrote Borstein. Malli hopes the cookbook will offer a buffet of choices and stories. "I want anyone who picks up the book to be able to find an essay that speaks to them," she said. "Whether that's people who have their gender identity completely solidified ... or whether they're just figuring themselves out."

> "We're asking people to look at how their gender identity parallels their cooking style."
>
> *-Nisa Malli, UVic writing student*

Malli will include her own recipe in the book. "It will be something meticulous and fancy and complicated. I like to have all the ingredients lined up on the counter and have it all prepared ahead of time and know exactly what I want it to look like in the end," she explained. She treats her gender in with the same mindful fashion.

"Food is an offering," she said. "I dress as a visual offering."

Malli hopes that anyone who agrees or disagrees will write an essay, relate it to a recipe and submit it for publication in her rebellious and introspective anthology.

Will *My Gender Cookbook* challenge our ideas of gender identity? "It better," Malli said.

Prof's book a refreshingly hopeful look at B.C. history and future

The Earth's Blanket: : Traditional Teachings for Sustainable Living
Nancy J. Turner
Douglas & McIntyre
304 pages

Brenna Sherlock

Nancy Turner, world-renowned ethnobotanist and ethnoecologist and professor in UVic's School of Environmental Studies, may be taking leave from teaching in January — but she's not slowing down any time soon.

Turner has just released her new book, *The Earth's Blanket*, in which she explores First Nations culture and how the narratives, methods of harvesting and way of life present a model for a sustainable living.

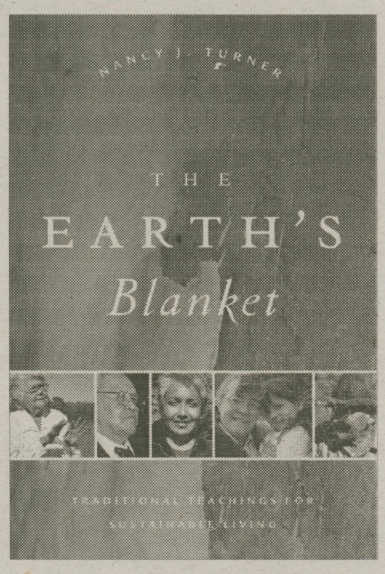
Turner is no stranger to this subject. Having authored or co-authored more than 15 books, she is prolific on the subject of traditional B.C. life — a central aspect to her teachings and personal beliefs. *The Earth's Blanket* compliments Turner's other works, and acts as a much needed academic resource. Her writing is as accessible as it is fluid, and the book functions almost as an academic narrative.

Turner recalls how learning about First Nations cultures has enriched her life and strengthened her connection to B.C. forests. This personal aspect draws readers in and can help them to better understand what their own connection to the land might be.

Her respect for traditional ways of life is undeniable, as is her commitment to understanding and protecting that knowledge.

The Earth's Blanket is a journey through cultural history and will undoubtedly inspire all who read it. First Nations culture is rich with connections to the land and provides a blueprint for sustainability that must become central to the way we see our world — not as separate, but as functioning together.

Turner understands how integral this view is, and shows how concepts of wealth and value must change — not only for the Earth to survive, but for people to regain a sense of place and community.



Turner is filled with positivity and hope for the future, both in her teachings and in her writing. *The Earth's Blanket* is not only the name of the book, but a powerful metaphor. It relates to a sense of respect for the Earth, that if we can successfull regain, we'll renew the sense of wholeness we so often lack.

TOP TEN
FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 30TH

1. SHARON JONES & THE DAP-KINGS
   100 Days, 100 Nights (Daptone)
2. CARIBOU *
   Pink Room Session (Merge)
3. SHOTGUN JIMMIE *
   The Onlys (Delorean)
4. VARIOUS *
   CBC Radio 3 Sessions, Vol. 3 (MapleMusic)
5. RADIOHEAD
   In Rainbows (Self-Released)
6. DEEP DARK WOODS *
   Hang Me Oh Hang Me (Black Hen)
7. SUNSET RUBDOWN *
   Random Spirit Lover (Jagjaguwar)
8. BASIA BULAT *
   Oh, My Darling (Hardwood)
9. EXTRA GOLDEN
   Hera Ma Nono (Thrill Jockey)
10. HARRIS NEWMAN *
    Decorated (Strange Attractors)

* Canadian artist † local artist

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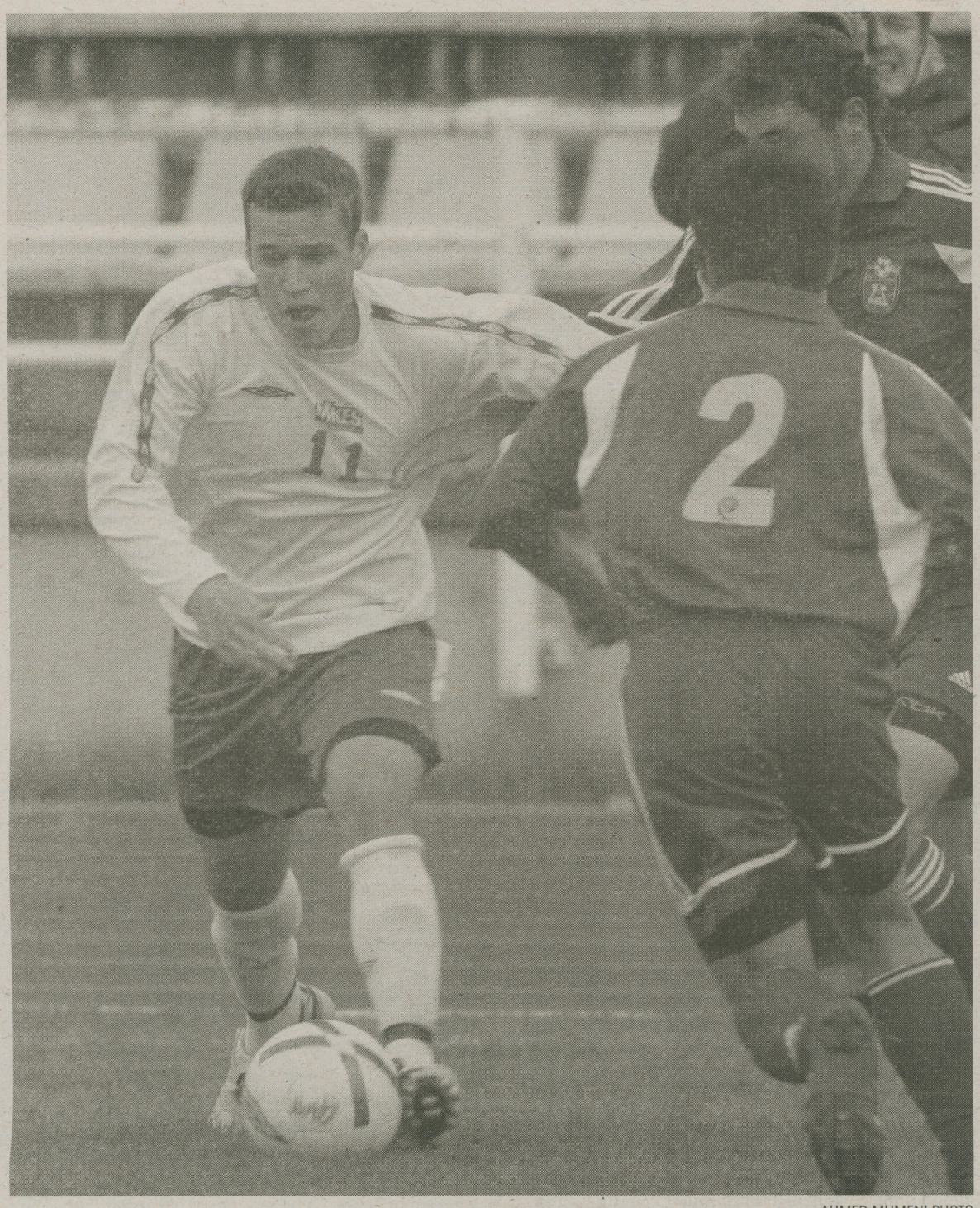


AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

UVic's Cole McFarlane (left) blasts past Alberta's Quenton Zalazar during a game on Oct. 27.

Vikes head to Canada West

Nathan Lowther

The final weekend of the regular season in Canada West men's soccer was nicely set up by the schedule makers.

UVic and UBC each hosted the University of Alberta and the University of Saskatchewan last weekend — the Vikes faced Alberta on Oct. 27 and Saskatchewan on the Oct. 28. The four teams were all battling it out behind top-seed Trinity Western for the final three play-off spots. With only four points separating the fifth-place Huskies from the second-place Golden Bears, a pair of loses would likely boot a team out of the playoffs.

"It comes down to our last weekend at home," said Vikes coach Bruce Wilson on Oct. 27 before his boys took the field against the Alberta Golden Bears. "We have to come out and get a win."

And the Vikes did just that, scoring in the 10th minute and then riding the strong goaltending of Dan Kilpatrick to a 1-0 victory. Kilpatrick made four point blank saves and was aggressive on any crosses in the air.

"It was just more reaction," he said. "That's what it's all about, just reacting to the ball."

UVic third-year forward Cole McFarlane ensured Kilpatrick's stellar clean sheet stood up for the win. Early in the first half, McFarlane finished off a loose ball in the box.

"It was a scramble in front of the net. The ball came right to me somehow — I don't even know what happened really," he said, "It just came right to my foot and I slotted it. Pretty easy."

The win clinched a playoff spot for the Vikes, but they still had to play the Saskatchewan Huskies on Oct. 28. The Huskies came out strong and fought hard for the 1-1 result.

Now the UVic squad is looking ahead to the playoffs running Nov. 2 to 3 at Trinity Western University.

"It's been two years since we've been in the playoffs. Hopefully we can take it all the way again this year," said Kilpatrick, referring to UVic's 2004 championship. "Our teams really jelling together now. It's taken the whole season but we're finally starting to play really well."

But heading into Langley and upsetting the top-seeded Spartans is going to be a daunting task. "We'd rather not play Trinity because it's their home field," said McFarlane.

But that's not to say McFarlane is counting his squad out.

"We've got some stuff to work on, but we've got a week to practise," he said. "I like [our chances going in]. We're excited to be in the playoffs finally. Anything can happen."

The Vikes play UBC in the semifinal on Nov. 2. The kickoff is 4 p.m. at Spartan Field in Langley.

Weekend wins secure top playoff spot

Nathan Lowther

It was an important weekend for UVic's women's soccer team, which went into the final games of the regular season needing to win to ensure a first-round bye in the Canada West playoffs.

Coming in, the Vikes were tied in points with Manitoba, but UVic held the tiebreaker — a nine-goal advantage in goal differential. Manitoba's final two games were against winless Regina, who the Vikes slaughtered 9-0 Oct. 21.

The first obstacle in the way of the Vikes playoff goal was the Alberta Pandas. The teams met on Oct. 27 at Centennial Stadium, where things looked bleak for UVic until third-year forward Kendra Flock's right foot saved the day. The game ended 2-1 in favour of the Vikes.

UVic had a clear edge in play, but were unable to finish on any of their chances. Then, against the flow of the play, Alberta defender Lisa Annicchiarico jumped in and worked a give-and-go with Salina Stanley at the top of the Vikes' box. The return ball found Annicchiarico in alone, and she beat UVic keeper Kasia Gwiazda low to the right in the 77th minute.

"I didn't think it was over," said Vikes forward Rachelle Armstrong. "We dominated the whole game and had so many chances so I knew we would get it back."

And they did. With three minutes left, UVic was awarded a direct kick from about 35 yards out.

"I wasn't sure if I should shoot or play it in far post," said Flock. "I just went for it and good thing I did." Her world-class strike cleared the wall and curled into the top corner, just out of the keeper's reach.

Seconds later, Amy Thorogood scored the game-winner. Armstrong raced down the wing and put a low cross in to Flock, who one-touched a back-heel to the oncoming Thorogood who buried it from just inside the box. The last-minute drama kept the Vikes even with Manitoba.

The win, with a 2-1 victory over the Saskatchewan Huskies on Oct. 28, gave the Vikes a first round bye.

"It will make a huge difference because the second place team rests," said Vikes coach Tracy David.

The team will head to UBC for the Canada West playoffs, where they'll play in the semifinal match on Nov. 3. The final takes place on Nov. 4.

David is okay with the game being in Vancouver. "It's close to home," she said. "It's a better alternative than playing in Manitoba."

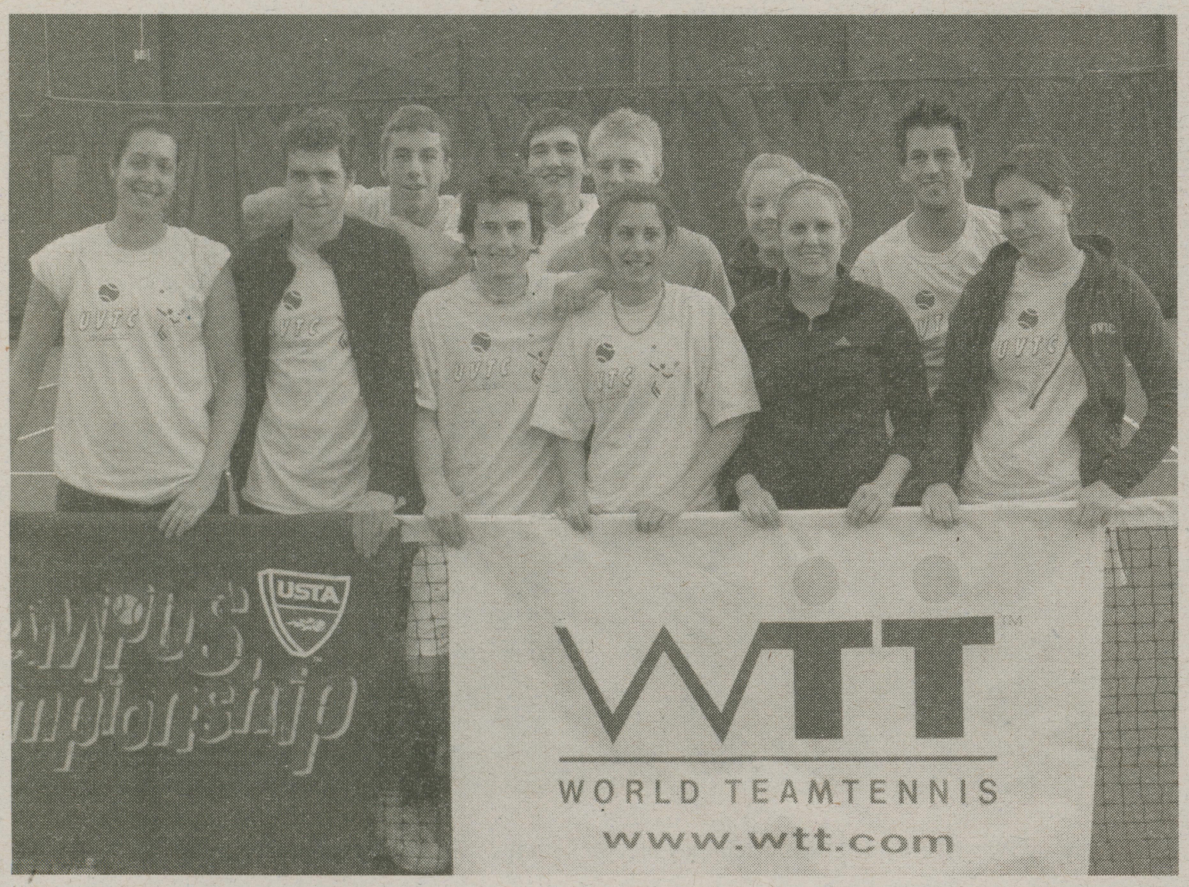
And the girls are feeling confident.

"I think we have a great chance of going all the way," said Flock. "We've beat every team in the league already. So there's no reason we can't do it again."

"We just have to believe we can do it and I think we're in a good place right now," said David.

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

UVic's Amy Thorogood (left) battles with Lisa Jennings during a game on Oct. 27. The Vikes won 2-1.



DAVID KARP PHOTO

UVic's tennis team is all smiles after winning a tournament in Beaverton, Ore. Yee-haw!

Tennis team wins Pacific Northwest championship

UVic beats out U.S. schools for an all-Canadian final against UBC

David Karp

BEAVERTON, Ore. — UVic's tennis team knocked off American competition — and a B.C. rival — to win a regional championship south of the border.

UVic captured the U.S. Tennis Association Pacific Northwest College Championships on Oct. 28. The win came complete with a bobblehead trophy. The co-ed tournament was played using World TeamTennis rules where each match consists of five sets — one of men's singles and one doubles, one of women's singles and one doubles, and a set of mixed doubles. The score is determined by the number of games each team wins. A team needs six games to win a set.

This year's final was a hyper-competitive all-B.C. matchup where UVic knocked off their mainland rivals 29-21. The last three sets all went to tiebreakers.

UVic was able to contain Kelly McNabney, whose play in women's singles and mixed doubles was one of the main reasons UBC reached the finals.

"She's a beast," explained University of Washington captain Cory Taylor, whose team lost 30-12 to UBC in the quarterfinals. "I've seen a lot of Gonzaga scholarship players that she could beat."

"Why is UBC so good?" asked Simon Fraser captain Arman Kaveh. "Because of Kelly . . . she can singlehandedly steal a tournament."

UVic's Crystal Knysh handed McNabney her first women's singles loss of the tournament in a 6-5 set that needed to be settled by tiebreakers. Knysh was able to use her strong backhand to counter McNabney's bullet of a forehand.

"I'm really out of shape and I couldn't make a forehand," said Knysh, adding that luck and her backhand helped her win.

"I just wasn't putting the ball where I should have," explained McNabney. "[Knysh] had a really good backhand and I was giving her way too many backhands."

Matt Vaulkhard and Ana Curcin, UVic's mixed doubles pair, managed to squeak past McNabney and Sepehr Khorhsani 6-5 in tiebreakers.

McNabney, a former starting goalkeeper for UBC's varsity soccer team, was battling a rotator cuff injury on her right shoulder the whole tournament. She was in tears after the tournament.

> "She's a beast."
>
> *– University of Washington's Cory Taylor on UBC's Kelly McNabney*

"I'm not emotional because of the loss," she explained. "I'm emotional because my shoulder is so sore that once the match is done, pain kicks in over adrenaline."

UVic won four of the five sets in the finals. UBC's lone victory came in men's singles, where Erin Crockett overcame a 5-3 deficit to beat Rob Fuhrman in tiebreakers.

"You always have a chance," said Crockett. "I just hung in there and relaxed a little bit. I just tried to get every ball back and hoped to make a good shot with it, even if it was tough."

UVic kept UBC chasing throughout the match, thanks to a 6-1 women's doubles trouncing early on by Curcin and Knysh.

"We had good team dynamics," said Curcin. "We've been practising together the past couple weeks so we know what our strengths and weaknesses are. Crystal, she likes her backhand more and I like my forehand more, so it works out perfectly."

UVic's men's doubles pairing of Fuhrman and Vaulkhard was also able to nab a 6-4 victory over Khorhsani and Crockett.

The 23-team tournament was held at the 14-court Tualatin Hills Tennis Center in Beaverton, Ore., just outside of Portland. This is the second year that teams from B.C. were invited to the tournament, which also includes colleges and universities from Washington and Oregon. Last year, Simon Fraser University lost in the final.

As Pacific Northwest champions, UVic qualifies for the U.S. Tennis Association National Campus Championship in Cary, N.C. in April.

TENNIS RULES

Standard rules	World TeamTennis rules
Best of three or best of five sets	One set
Best-of-13 tiebreaker if set is tied at 6-6	Best-of-seven tiebreaker if set is tied at 5-5
No substitutions during match	Can sub players any time during sets
Need to win two points in a row after deuce (40-40)	Sudden death after deuce

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Women's field hockey to fight for 11th title

Gemma Karstens-Smith

This was a good year for UVic's women's field hockey team. After an eight-game undefeated streak, the Vikes finished second in the Canada West conference.

Now the team will try to cap the season with a banner when they head to Toronto to compete in the Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) national championships from Nov. 1 to 4.

UVic, which enters the competition seeded fourth, will face off against top-ranked rivals UBC on Nov. 1. The Vikes will also go up against the York Lions, host Toronto Varsity Blues, and Ontario champs Guelph Gryphons in the round-robin tournament. The two teams with the best records will play for gold on Nov. 4.

Vikes coach Lynne Beecroft is more apprehensive about the playing conditions in Toronto than the quality of her opponents.

"The biggest competition for us will be getting over the hurdle of playing on a different surface," she said. The artificial turf at UVic is water-based, whereas Toronto's turf is rubberized.

But Beecroft said that once the team gets past the new surface, they'll be able to hold their own.

"If we play as well as we can, and if we play as a team, we can beat anyone in this tournament," she said.

Taking down UBC may prove to be a challenge, however. The T-Birds broke UVic's season-long undefeated streak when they handed the Vikes back-to-back loses on Oct. 13 and 14. Last year, the two teams met in the CIS championship game. Each had 10 national titles under their belts going in; the T-Birds walked away with 11.

However, if it takes talent to beat UBC, the Vikes have it. Three Canada West all-stars come from UVic, including fourth-year starter Ali Lee and third-year forward Natalie Wise, who won the conference scoring title with seven goals. Canada West's rookie of the year is also a Vike — Kaitlyn Williams is the first-year goalkeeper who went the first 321 minutes of the season without letting in a goal. Williams was one of seven rookies on this year's team.

"You just don't know what a young team can do," said Beecroft.

Although her team did face some tough blows this season, including a loss to last-ranked Calgary, Beecroft sees this year as being very positive.

"We always kind of reflected on what we've learned," she explained of her optimistic outlook. "I never ever, ever felt that there was a low."

GETTING DOWN AND DIRTY

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

The Castaway Wanderers piled it on when they met up with the Vikes at Wallace Field on Oct. 26.

Salmon Kings win one, lose one in home-opener series

Pre-game party starts off the regular season with a bang

Thomas Sluchinski

Oct. 26 was more than a home opener for the Victoria Salmon Kings — it was an outright party. However, the 4-3 loss to the Las Vegas Wranglers didn't leave much to celebrate.

Before the puck droped, The Usual Suspects entertained fans outside of Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre with Billy Idol covers while the Red Bull Girls increased the crowd's energy level by giving away free cans.

Inside, explosions announced the return of captain Kiel "The Highlander" McLeod and the Salmon Kings to the 4,992 waiting fans. Pre-game fireworks left S-Kings star right-winger Milan Gajic asking reporters after the game if they heard explosions. Gajic said he was "deaf for the first five minutes" of the game.

With Gajic and some fans a little dazed, a hard fought game began with the six-foot-six McLeod handing out some big bangs of his own. Clearly the most physical player on the ice, McLeod laid six of the 10 big body checks by the Salmon Kings. The entire Wrangler team only registered five decent hits.

While the S-Kings played hard in front of their home crowd, some poorly timed penalties by the fish, combined with some fortunate Wrangler bounces, gave the boys from Las Vegas a 4-3 win.

On Oct. 27, before 3,675 fans, the bounces were in favour of the Salmon Kings when they faced the Wranglers at home once again. Billy Thompson was in goal while starter Julian Ellis was on a call-up with the Manitoba Moose. Thompson had a huge night, stopping 34 shots for a 4-3 win.

Defenseman Dylan Yeo, 21, got his first pro goal in the first period to open scoring for the S-Kings. Yeo, a Calgary Hitmen graduate, is a benefit of the affiliation agreement the S-Kings have with the Manitoba Moose and Vancouver Canucks. He signed with the Moose in July and is in Victoria to take advantage of more playing time.

The Salmon Kings continued their homestand on Oct. 31 against the Bakersfield Condors. The results were not avaliable as of press time. The S-Kings and Condors face off at Save-on-Foods Memorial Centre again on Nov. 2 and Nov. 3.

VIKES SCOREBOARD

WOMEN'S SOCCER
Oct. 27 Vikes 2 Alberta 1
Oct. 28 Vikes 2 Saskatchewan 1

MEN'S SOCCER
Oct. 27 Vikes 1 Alberta 0
Oct. 28 Vikes 1 Saskatchewan

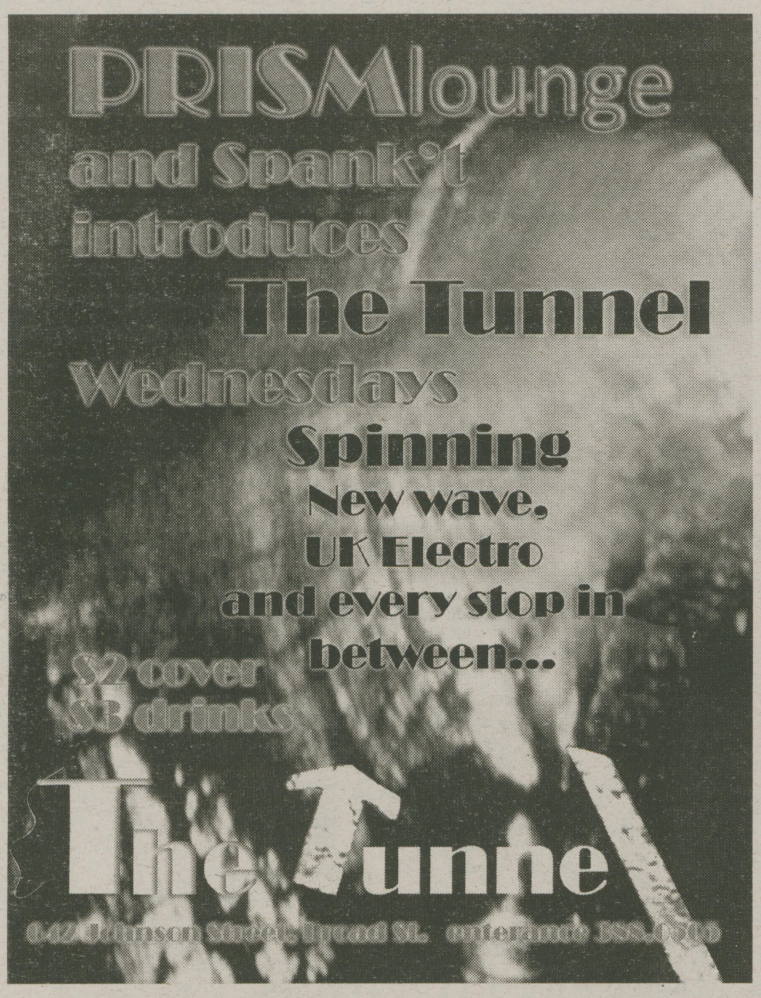
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Oct. 26 SFU 64 Vikes 57
Oct. 27 TWU 60 Vikes 58

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Oct. 26 Vikes 29 SFU 66
Oct. 27 Vikes 71 TWU 56

WOMEN'S RUGBY
OCT. 27 Cowichan 29 Vikes 5

MEN'S RUGBY
Oct. 27. Vikes 22 Castaway 10

MEN'S FIELD HOCKEY
Oct. 28 Vikes 5 Victoria Select 3



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Ashley Yee makes gets around her Simon Fraser defender on Oct. 26.

McKay scores big but Vikes lose

Gemma Karstens-Smith

In their first game of the regular season, UVic's women's basketball team faced off against one of their biggest rivals, the Simon Fraser Clan.

In February, the Vikes gave the Clan a scare when they beat them in the first game of the Canada West division playoffs. Simon Fraser went on to win the division and the national title.

On Oct. 26, UVic hoped to start their season off on a winning note in front of the home crowd at the McKinnon Gym. But the Clan proved why they're the national champs and bested the Vikes 64-57.

Still, Simon Fraser coach Brian Langford thought his team could have done better.

"UVic played very, very hard," said Langford. "Whenever somebody plays hard you need to play harder. And we weren't."

In the first quarter, it appeared that the Clan wouldn't have a problem taking down the Vikes. Five minutes into the game, Simon Fraser scored a couple of buckets and UVic started playing a sloppy game of fouls and messy shots that couldn't find the net.

"We started out a little tentative, a little nervous," said Vikes coach Brian Cheng.

But in the second quarter, things began to click for UVic. With just over five minutes left in the half, fifth-year forward Ryan McKay started off a scoring spell that saw the Vikes add some much-needed points to the board.

Third-year forward Kayla Dykstra helped out with a flurry of rebounds and some baskets of her own. Dykstra led UVic in rebounds with a total of 11, plus an impressive 11 points.

Simon Fraser seemed confused by the sudden change and started making mistakes. At the half, the Clan still led 32-22.

"We settled down into a groove that we can play at and we got comfortable," said Cheng of his team's second quarter performance.

UVic came out roaring in the second half, getting lots of shots up. But the ball refused to drop into the net. The Simon Fraser defence proved to be an obstacle for the Vikes all night, forcing them outside the key to take their shots. The Vikes rebounded well, but couldn't get the ball to stay in the net.

In the opening minutes of the fourth quarter it looked like UVic might pull out a miracle as they came within three points of Simon Fraser. The Clan held on tight and pulled out the win, thanks mostly to second-year centre Laurelle Weigl who had 26 points in the game.

In her first regular season game for the Vikes, McKay led the scoring with 21 points. A former All-Canadian, McKay transferred to the Vikes from Dalhousie.

"I think she learned that Canada West defence is big and sometimes we run into some big trees," said Cheng of McKay's performance. "I'm sure someone of Ryan's caliber will adjust and she did in the game."

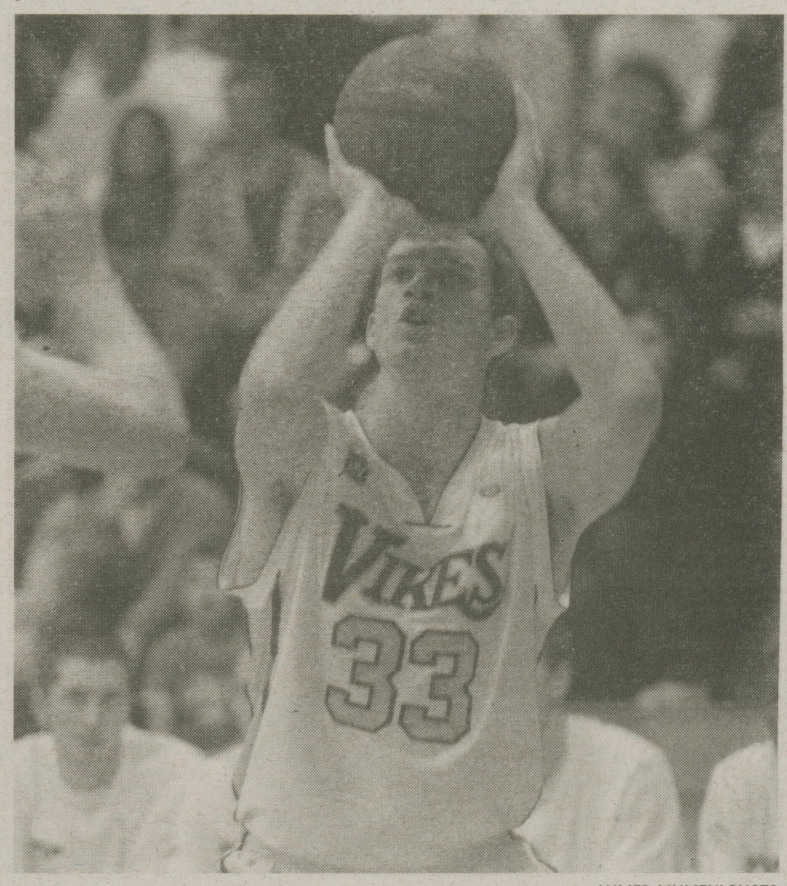
McKay's performance during the Vikes Oct. 27 game against Trinity Western Spartans was much of the same. Once again she led the Vikes in scoring with 22 points.

The Vikes dominated most of the Trinity Western game, but the Spartans came from behind to beat UVic 60-58. Spartans guard Katie Haworth won the game for her team when she scored the last basket with 10 seconds left on the clock.

The Vikes will travel to Alberta for a game in Calgary on Nov. 2 and one in Lethbridge on Nov. 3.

UVic starts season with pair of wins

Gavin Day



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Mitch Gudgeon lines up a shot during a game against Simon Fraser.

The Vikes men's basketball team opened Canada West action in the best way possible — with a pair of wins.

On Oct. 26 they pulled out a 79-66 victory over the Simon Fraser Clan in front of a raucous student crowd before easily defeating Trinity Western 71-56 on Oct. 27.

Mitch Gudgeon led UVic in the Simon Fraser game, scoring an astonishing 34 points — a career high that earned him the Canada West athlete of the week. The next night, Cyril Indome provided the spark off the bench, leading the way with a career-high 17 points on the back of five three-pointers.

The Vikes jumped out to an early 5-0 lead within the first minute of the Simon Fraser game. After that initial burst, UVic was unable to make a serious run to pull far away from the Clan in the first half. Brandon Dunlop hit a three-pointer at the end of the half to make the score 26-20.

After the break, the Vikes relied heavily on Gudgeon for the bulk of the scoring but Dunlop chipped in with some clutch outside shooting. With about two minutes left in the third, he hit back-to-back threes to put UVic up 51-43. Dunlop ended the game with 21 points.

In the last quarter, Gudgeon took the Vikes on his shoulders and carried them to the win. He scored 14 of his points in the fourth, including a three-pointer to push him over the 30-point plateau with a minute-and-a-half left in the game. The last Vike to score 30 points was on Jan. 20, 2005 when Chris Trumpy scored 30 points in an overtime win over UBC.

After the game, Gudgeon was all smiles. He gave some credit to the near-capacity crowd.

"I hope we get crowds like this every night," he said. "It's going to be a wild year if we do."

Gudgeon credited his streak to being unmarked. "I was just lucky to be open a lot," he said.

The victory on Oct. 27 was much more comfortable for the Vikes. The Spartans ran out to an early 7-1 lead, but the Vikes came back to outscore the Spartans 24-11 in the first quarter and never trailed again.

In the second quarter UVic's bench scored some crucial baskets. By the end of the first half, the Vikes led in bench scoring 28-8. Indome led the way in the second quarter with three three-pointers.

Indome was happy with his performance but recognized that there was room to improve.

"I just happened to be open," he said. "I know I've played better games defensively which is why I don't call this a career game."

Coming out of the locker room, UVic started to turn the ball over, allowing the Spartans to creep back into the game. But the Vikes regained their composure and with two-and-a-half minutes left in the third, Dunlop hit a long three to restore a 10-point lead — 50-40.

Vikes coach Craig Beaucamp praised the contribution of his bench.

"Jeff Cullen and Cyril Indome have played two great games off the bench this weekend," he said. "Trinity Western just kept coming and full credit to them."

The Vikes go on the road for their next two games, the first in Calgary on Nov. 2, then in Lethbridge on Nov. 3. They'll return to play a double-header against Thompson Rivers at the McKinnon Gym on Nov. 9 and Nov. 10.

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ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

The Vikes reach for the stars during a lineout against the Castaway Wanderers at Wallace Field on Oct. 27. UVic was down at the half but battled back for a 22-10 win.

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Last-minute tries secure key win for rugby squad

Andrew Smith

Things looked bleak for the Vikes men's rugby team against the Castaway Wanderers (CW) at Wallace Field on Oct. 27.

The Castaway Wanderers controlled play and were up 10-7 at the half. But the Vikes kept a level head and fought back hard. In the end, they came out with a 22-10 victory, thanks to a trio of late-game tries.

Early in the match, CW used their size advantage to push the Vikes into their own half. UVic held strong, playing much of the first half on the defence.

The Castaway Wanderers' frustration shone through the game as its manager argued with their players from the sidelines — CW looked like they felt they were being robbed of a win.

Most of the possession was kept in the forward back with CW controlling the mauls and rucks. The Castaway Wanderers wheeled the scrum several times with a larger pack pushing the Vikes further back.

UVic kept up their defence. With a quick play in the backs, fifth-year Vike Dave Moonlight went over to score. Castaway countered quickly to make the score 10-7 at the half.

Much of the Castway Wanderers offence was carried out through its forward pack, rarely running the ball out to their backline unless it was for a long range kick.

"The Castaway kicking game was better than the home side," said Vikes head coach Doug Tate.

The second half was much of the same story with UVic defending and holding off an onslaught of attacks. The tackling was well placed and the Castaway Wanderers could not penetrate the defensive line.

The Vikes welcomed back key players including fly half Rob Turk, scrum half Jamie MacKenzie and fullback Ty Shannon, who had been at Canada U-20 tryouts during the team's first loss of the season on Oct. 20. There was a level of intensity in the CW match on Oct. 27 that the Vikes seemed to have been missing. Tate attributed much of the intensity to Rob Turk sliding back in as fly half.

"He brings a level of intensity to the game that can't be taught," said Tate.

With their starting line back intact, UVic's backline should have been in full swing and penetrating the CW line. But it wasn't until the last 15 minutes of the game that they really released the ball from the their forwards. With a strong connection between the scrum half Mackenzie and Turk, the ball was distributed to its quick backline.

UVic centres Phil MacKenzie and Ben Grant scored tries by dashing through the Castaway Wanderers defence from in the Vikes half. Those two tries took the wind out of the CW's sails as they watched the game slip away. To put salt in their wounds, Ty Shannon went over one more time in the dying minutes of the match, scoring a try and sealing the 22-10 score.

The Vikes will visit the Velox Valhallians on Nov. 3.

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Korean Language Club is now open. Come and sign up your name to receive free Korean Language lessons for all levels throughout the year. Korean conversation partners also available. You can also ask any questions relating to Korea. For more information contact Sean Park at seanpark1024@hotmail.com or call 727-8447.

Every Tuesday at 2:30 pm the Buddhist Collective has a discussion group led by the Zen monk on campus — his name is Eshu. We read Buddhist texts, discuss them and chat. It's done in a relaxing and friendly atmosphere. Anyone is welcome (i.e. all you need is an interest in Buddhism — you don't have to identify as a Buddhist!) We meet at the Interfaith Chapel. More info: buddhistcollective@hotmail.com

Learn to Meditate — Monday and Thursday, 4:30 - 5:15pm. UVic Interfaith Chapel. More info: www.uvic.ca/interfaith

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EVENTS FOR NOV. 1 THROUGH NOV. 8

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Public Forum: Sale of Tree Farm License Lands
7:30 p.m.
SJ Willis School Auditorium, 923 Topaz Avenue
The decision by Forests and Range Minister Rich Coleman to allow Western Forest Products to withdraw sections of coastal forest lands from their tree farm license west of Sooke has ignited a well-deserved backlash.
Info: www.dogwoodinitiative.org

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Seminar: Explore public policy
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Harbour Towers, 345 Quebec Street
Join the Fraser Institute's Nick Schneider as he examines free market environmentalism's 600 year old history. The program will also feature presentations on health care reform and human trafficking.
Info/registration: www.fraserinstitute.ca/studentsandlearning/

Food Not Bombs presentation
3:30 p.m.
UVic, David Strong Bldg, C118
Kieth Mchenry, co-founder of the first food not bombs, will talk about the history of the movement and direct action and nonviolence. By donation: $5 suggested.
Info: www.foodnotbombs.net

To submit an event, please email promo@martlet.ca by Monday

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Film: Crystal Fear, Crystal Clear (2005)
5:30 p.m. (screening starts)
Fernwood Community Association Hall, 1921 Fernwood Road
Crystal meth has become the drug of choice for teenagers in towns across North America. Post screening discussion with BC Filmmaker Eva Wunderman, Marilyn Erikson (Crystal Meth BC) and a recovering crystal meth addict. $5-10 donation for adults. No reservations.
Info: www.opencinema.ca

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

A conversation about the power of young people
5 - 7:00 p.m.
IQ Bistro, Grad Lounge
Adam Giambrone will speak about the role that young people can play in politics and the world. He will share his experiences as the youngest president of any federal party (the NDP) in Canadian history, a city councilor and chair of the Toronto Transit Commission.
Info: adamgiambrone.ca

Public Forum: Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP)
7 - 9 p.m.
Room 125, UVIC Engineering/Computer Science Bldg
Victoria MP Denise Savoie and the UVIC Young New Democrats invite you to a public forum on the SPP. Speakers will be Peter Julian, NDP trade critic, and Murray Dobbin. Find out what the SPP is, why it's a threat to Canadian sovereignty, and what you can do about it.
Info: 363-3600 Savoie.d@parl.gc.ca

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Your Right to Know: How to Access Public Records
4 p.m.
UVic, Cornett B107
Citizens, researchers and journalists have the right to access information held by governments, universities and other public institutions. Readily accessable public information is essential to having more open and accountable government, a more informed electorate, and greater citizen participation in the democratic process. Will Horter is a lawyer and executive director of Dogwood Initiative. He will share his insights into the use of provincial freedom of information laws to access public records.
Info: maned@martlet.ca, 721-8361

UPCOMING: NOVEMBER 10

Live Stand-up Comedy
9 p.m.
Murph's place, Vacation Inn
3020 Douglas St. (& Finlayson)
will feature Standup Chris Molineux, a UVic grad who has worked with Jim Carey, Jerry Seinfeld, Norm Macdonald and Ellen Degeneres. November 17th will feature an all female show with local middle act Katie Bell and National headliner Rachael Deslaureis. No cover.
Info: 389-9962

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